



CRAWFORD COUNTY AVALANCHE



GHS basketball 1B

Thursday, January 30, 2003

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Madsens named Citizens of the Year

► Athena goes to McConnell; title company earns Silver Lining

by Cheryl Ruley
Staff Writer

The Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce held its Annual Awards Night last Thursday evening, during Business After Hours.

Co-sponsored by the Grayling Youth Booster Club and Milltown Title and Escrow, the January 23 event drew over 100 people to the Grayling Holiday Inn to see who would be named the 2002 Citizen of the Year, and recipients of the Athena and Silver Lining awards.

Following a brief presenta-

tions by the sponsors, the award ceremony began.

The 2002 Silver Lining Award, presented each year to a Chamber member business that has improved the appearance of its establishment, was awarded to the Crawford County Title Insurance Agency.

The agency's building on Burton Court has undergone extensive renovation, inside and out, including an upstairs addition. Company owner Mary Ann Ferrigan accepted the award from Chamber President Tim Zigila.

A committee of Grayling Promotional Association (GPA) members makes the decision each year from Silver Lining nominations received.

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See "MADSENS NAMED..."



Photos by Cheryl Ruley

Chamber President Tim Zigila presents the 2002 Citizen of the Year award to lifelong Grayling residents, Skip and Gail Madsen, recognizing their many contributions to the community, especially beautification of the Grayling business area.

(Left) Owner and operator of Crawford County Title Insurance Agency, Mary Ann Ferrigan, accepts the 2002 Silver Lining Award from Chamber President Tim Zigila. The company was recognized for its recent building renovation and improvements. (Right) Taken quite by surprise, Lynn Porritt-McConnell shared a few words with the audience of more than 100 after being presented with the 2002 Athena Award, recognizing her for her leadership, mentoring and community service.



County property may be sold

by Cheryl Ruley
Staff Writer

The Crawford County Board of Commissioners is considering the sale of the County Courthouse complex and its property to local developer and radio station owner, Bill Gannon, in order to place the "prime riverfront property" back on the tax rolls.

At the Board's January 15 regular meeting, County Chair Lynnette Coriow appointed several people to an exploratory committee now tasked with learning the feasibility of such a move. The committee met for the first time January 22 for organizational purposes and will meet several times in the near future, then report back to the Commissioners.

Citizens and officials appointed to the committee are: County Controller Paul Compo (serving as chairman), Assistant Court Administrator Tom Haskel, Sheriff Kirk Wakefield, County Clerk/Register of Deeds Sandra Moore, District #5 Crawford County Commissioner Dave Stephenson, Crawford County Building Authority members Neal Michal and Jack Mahank, MSU Extension's Steve Foust, businessmen George Stancil and Don Schans, and former Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce Director, Lynn McConnell.

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Crawford COA institutes new money-saving measures

by Susan Warrington
Staff Writer

Until they have a complete understanding of its financial picture, the Crawford County Commission on Aging (COA) Board is continuing to tighten its belt.

The Board has agreed to a hiring freeze and will not replace personnel who leave due to retirement or other reasons. Additionally, the board will not enter into any agreements with outside agencies for the time being.

The COA has also opted to change their monthly bookkeeping procedures to a monthly accrual method, which should prevent shortfalls such as those experienced at the end of the last fiscal year.

The accounting method change coincides with a change in accountants used by the COA. Mickey Perez replaced Bill Holmes as the accountant for the COA as of January 1.

Give an old flag a proper retirement

by Cheryl Ruley
Staff Writer

Passersby of the Crawford County Historic Museum may be wondering what the purpose is of that funny looking box, with the handled door, sitting just outside the museum door.

Well, the story goes that a few months back, Grayling resident and Dial-A-Ride bus driver, Jim Carmean, noticed once again how many torn and tattered, worn and weary, many American flags have become in the neighborhood.

Carmean makes a lot of trips around town, and beyond, in the course of each work day and has become quite frustrated at the mix of apparent patriotism and neglect throughout the community.

"I am so glad to see so many people flying the flag," he said. "But if we're going to fly the flag, we need to do it right and with the respect our colors

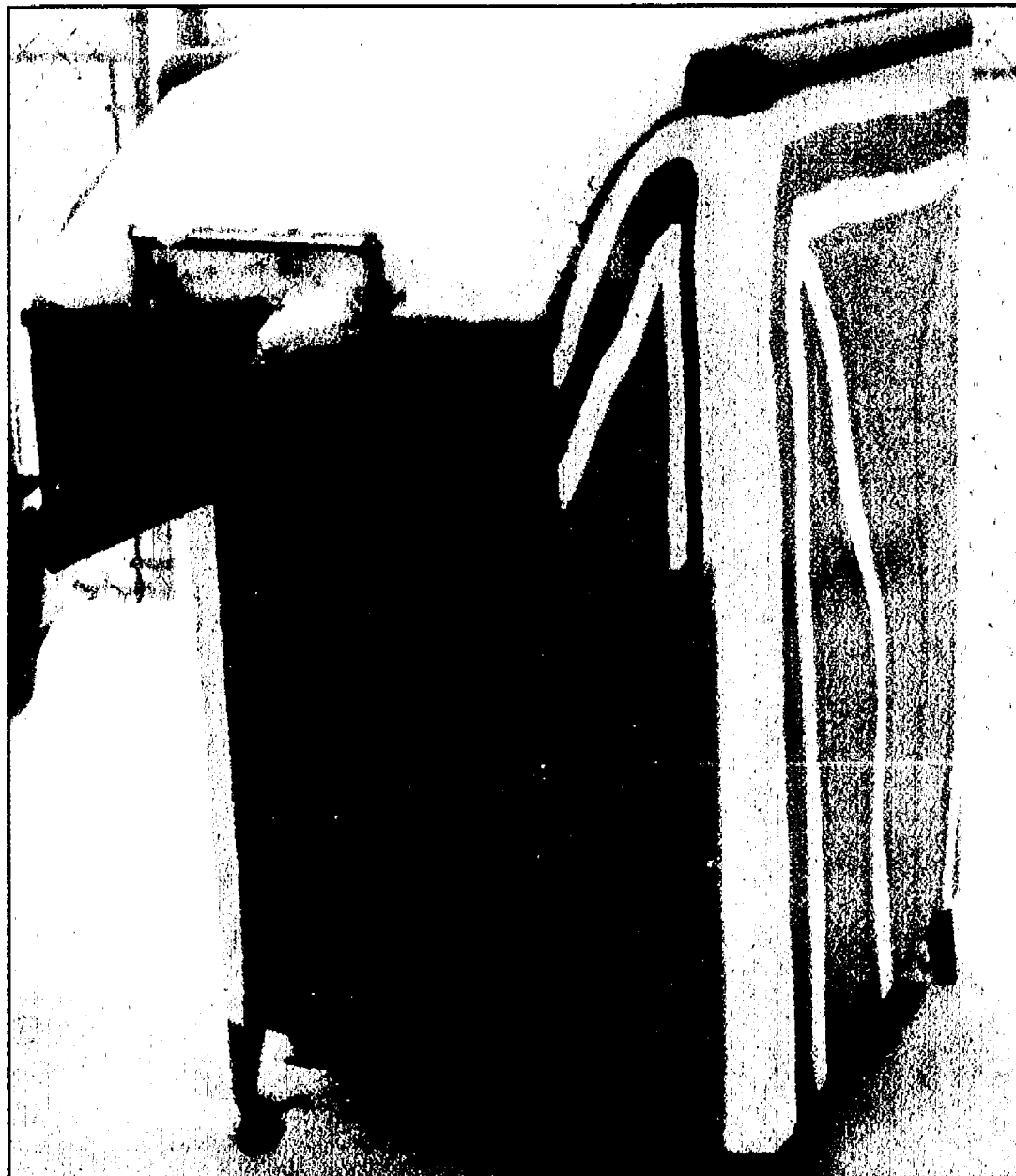
deserve."

In an effort to get more people to replace their worn out flags and have them disposed of according to proper American flag etiquette, Carmean managed to acquire the old night book deposit box from the Frederic Community Library for use as a collection box for retired flags.

"I urge everyone to take a look at their flags," Carmean said. "If they are worn, faded or tattered in any way, it's time to replace them."

And, what does one do with an old flag? Place it in a paper bag and deposit it into the new collection box at the museum on Michigan Avenue in Grayling. Come next flag day, June 14, the American Legion will hold its annual flag burning ceremony, where all the old flags will be officially retired.

Look for a second flag collection box to be installed at the American Legion on James Street this spring.



If your American flag is looking a bit beat up, replace it. Then deposit the old flag in a brown paper bag in this new collection box located near the Crawford County Historic Museum in Grayling.

Photo by Cheryl Ruley

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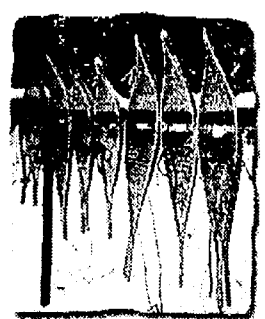
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Nuclear watchdogs attend township meeting; advise Maple Forest to be vigilant, learn more

by Susan Warrington
Staff Writer

The most recent Maple Forest Township Board meeting attracted a crowd of approximately 50 people to learn more about the possibility that building debris, from the dismantling of the decommissioned Big Rock Nuclear Power Plant in Charlevoix, will be deposited into the Waters landfill.

Consumers Energy, which owns the now idle plant, has plans to take radioactive materials (anything with a radiation level of 5 picocuries per gram or more) to South Carolina, Utah and Nevada and wants to bring the building materials that are claimed to be non-radioactive to the Waters landfill.

Kurt Haas, Site General Manager of Big Rock, said they plan to bring clean demolition material which will have no effect on the health and safety of people in the area. He said it is "safe for you, safe for your neighbors, safe now, safe 100 years from now."

Haas said the company would have preferred to place the debris in the Charlevoix landfill, but it is now closed and the Waters landfill is the next closest licensed to accept construction debris. He explained safety is the first priority and Consumers is constantly looking for ways to do the job better. In fact, the power company is willing to pay for third party oversight of the disposal and will

financially assist Waste Management Inc., who operates the Waters landfill, with the purchase of radiation detection devices for the landfill.

Tracy Goble, an environmental engineer for Consumers Energy, said the 85.5 million pounds of debris from Big Rock would only be two percent of the annual intake at the landfill. She also said the maximum dosage of radiation from the material would be equivalent to the amount given off by one smoke detector.

Michael Keegan from the Coalition for a Nuclear Free Great Lakes, Diane D'Arrigo, the Radioactive Waste Project Director for the Nuclear Information and Resource Service in Washington D.C. and Dr. Marvin Resnikoff, a nuclear physicist from Radioactive Waste Management Associates in New York, were at the township meeting and raised concerns about accepting waste from Big Rock.

Their major point to the local people was to be very vigilant and learn as much as possible before accepting any waste. All three of them said the board should be aware that if the landfill accepts any radioactive material, it opens the way for materials from other nuclear reactors and material that may be more radioactive to be dumped at Waters.

Keegan, D'Arrigo and Resnikoff, all nuclear watchdogs, pointed out the radiation

Consumers Energy and Waste Management will be testing for is not the only type that may be given off by materials dumped in Waters. Resnikoff said if the waste is accepted, the material should be checked for radiation at Big Rock before it is loaded so that material contaminated by radioactivity is not buried in the middle of the load where its effect on detectors would be diluted by the mass of material.

Resnikoff said there was no hurry to make a decision about accepting the waste because all of the information is not yet available. In mid-March a report will be published which will show how much radiation there is in various parts of the plant. He suggested that no decisions should be made before this information is available.

After presentations by both sides, township board members asked questions of the three visitors. Sandra Baynham asked what they would be accepting, radiation free material (material that has no more radiation than materials that have not been associated with a nuclear reactor) or material that had up to five picocuries per gram?

Ken Pillagi, Health Physics and Environmental Services Manager said there has been years of work prior to this point removing paint and scraping the concrete to remove layers that might be contaminated by radiation so the rub-

ble is now clean.

When asked again, Pillagi said there might be some radiation associated with the waste. Township Supervisor Mark Kniss asked whether Consumers would send material up to 4.9 picocuries per gram to the site, Pillagi said he couldn't promise the company wouldn't.

Consumers has budgeted in excess of \$100 million for the cost of decommissioning Big Rock, 15 percent of which is held in reserve for contingencies or unforeseen expenses. Kniss asked if they couldn't spend some of the contingency money and send the debris elsewhere. Haas replied the Waters landfill was established for the purpose of accepting demolition debris. He said, "why should we send it elsewhere and burden others?"

Bob Skoweronek, of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), who has been working with Consumers on environment issues regarding the decommissioning, said the original estimation of radioactivity in the material would be less than one picocurie per gram. He said he did not know whether the new upper limit suggested of five picocuries per gram was commonplace. Kniss asked him to check on this and to find out if accepting rubble from a nuclear plant would be setting a precedent for some years to come.

GHS MEAP scores generally better than state average

by Susan Warrington
Staff Writer

The results of Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) tests for the last three years were presented to the Crawford AuSable School District board at their January meeting. Students who scored well on the tests were endorsed which means they have met or exceeded the basic knowledge and understanding required by the state. Those who scored at the two highest levels in math,

reading, science and writing earned Merit Scholarships.

Grayling High School endorsement results were compared to both the state and to the other schools in the COOR district. The students of Grayling High School have a higher percentage of students endorsed for the last three years in math, reading, and science than both the state and other COOR schools.

The writing scores have dropped to one percent below the state average of 89. The school

board was told by Assistant High School Principal Melissa Stone that the emphasis this year is on reading and writing for the entire district. The staff will work hard until the scores exceed the state average.

The endorsement level on the social studies test has dropped to seven percentage points below the state average. This area is the most recent one to be tested by MEAP and the test has been changing yearly. The district is working to exceed the state level in this area also.

THERE'S NOTHING LIKE A LIVE PERFORMANCE Here in Grayling

SPECIAL PERFORMANCES

Celtic Dessert Concert

Sunday, March 9, 2003 - Grayling Holiday Inn
Doors Open 2:00, Concert at 3:00
Assorted Desserts & NA Beverage

Central Avenue

with Dr. David Gillingham

Thursday, February 27, 2003

Grayling Holiday Inn - Evergreen Room

Doors Open 6:45, Performance 7:30

Coffee Break: Homemade Cookies or Brownies,
Soft Drinks, Coffee

All Special Performance Admission: \$12.00
Student/Senior Citizen \$10.00

COMMAND PERFORMANCE DINNER SERIES

This series offers the opportunity to enjoy a variety of entertainment in a dinner setting. This season, the dinner series will feature new as well as familiar talent. All dinner performances will be at the Grayling Holiday Inn. Dinner includes n/a beverage, dessert, tax and gratuities. Vegetarian and special meal requests are honored and should be made at the time of ticket purchase.

Gold Company

Thursday, April 3, 2003

Entree: Filet of Sole in Cream Sauce or Beef Stroganoff,
Rice Pilaf, Broccoli, Salad, Rolls, Dessert, NA Beverage.

Michigan Opera Theater

Thursday, May 1, 2003

Entree: New York Strip or Salmon with Crab/Asparagus
Sauce, Twice Baked Potato, Vegetable, Rolls, Fruit/Cheese
Plate, Dessert, NA Beverage

All Dinner Shows 6:00 p.m. • \$27.50 Tax & Tip Included

Tickets available at the Crawford AuSable School Central Office or Call 348-7146 for more information.

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National Guard called to active duty

► Camp Grayling to serve as processing center for some called to duty

LANSING — A number of Army National Guard soldiers, from across the state, are being called to active duty and are expected to serve for up to one year.

Approximately 180 Army National Guard soldiers from Kingsford, Menominee, and Pontiac received word they will mobilize together as the 1775th Military Police Company. The MP's arrived January 20-21 at the Pontiac armory for initial in-processing. They are expected to depart for their mobilization station at Fort McCoy, WI sometime next week. Their final destination has not yet been confirmed.

Guardsmen from Sault Ste.

Marie, Midland, and Jackson are also in the process of receiving active duty orders.

The 1437th Engineer Company, Sault Ste. Marie, reported to Camp Grayling on January 22 for initial processing. They were then scheduled to depart for their mobilization station at Fort Campbell, KY on January 26. This call-up also involves approximately 180 Michigan Guard soldiers. Their final destination also has not yet been confirmed.

The 1460th Transportation Company from Midland, and additional soldiers from the 1461st Transportation Company from Jackson, departed for initial in-processing at Camp Grayling on January 22. The approximately 140 soldiers are then expected to depart for their mobilization station at Fort McCoy on January 26. Their final destination has not yet been confirmed.

On Monday, January 27, approximately 70 soldiers from the 126th Armor Battalion, headquartered in Wyoming, MI, with units stationed in Manistee, Cadillac, South Haven, Dowagiac and Three Rivers, reported to Fort Custer, near Battle Creek, for four days of in-processing. From there, they report to the Armor Battalion's headquarters for a February 1 departure to their mobilization station at Fort McCoy.

After about one week of in-processing and additional training, the 126th will report to Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Mount Clemens, and the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base to provide security there.

They are replacing soldiers and airmen, many of whom have been on duty for more than a year.

Meanwhile, about 300 sol-

diers from the 144th Military Police Company from Owosso and the 1776th Military Police Company from Taylor, are expected to return home in mid-February after providing security at military installations in the Washington, D.C. area for one year.

One other Military Police unit, the 210th Military Police Battalion, also from Taylor, with approximately 60 soldiers, is nearly six months into their expected one year deployment in Washington, D.C.

The 745th Ordnance Company from Grayling was called up in December to back-fill active duty Army soldiers at Fort Hood, TX who have been deployed. The 22-member unit is expected to be deployed for one year.

The Michigan Army National Guard has approximately 8,800 members in 119 units across the state.

Help Center plans annual Paper Drive

► Local food pantry provides more than just food to needy

by Cheryl Ruley
Staff Writer

February is Paper Drive Month at the Crawford County Community Christian Help Center, but other types of donations are also needed.

The Help Center serves as the

local food pantry and is located on Huron Street in Grayling, adjacent to the Family Independence Agency offices.

Because many Help Center clients run short on paper supplies, such as toilet paper, facial tissue and paper towels, every year a Paper Drive is held to help stock the Center's shelves.

Help Center Director, Gerry Schroeder said, because of the poor economy, combined with locally high unemployment, her organization has been extra busy

and donations are needed.

Besides paper products, the Help Center has also seen a demand for canned meats, such as chicken, ham, corned beef and beef hash, chili with meat, and beef stew.

Those who are employed, but who are on a strict budget, are having a hard time affording the increasing gasoline prices to get to work. Schroeder suggests that anyone who can help by buying a gasoline coupon book (available at most service sta-

tions) and then donating it to the Help Center for distribution, can really help someone out in a pinch.

Schroeder said the gas coupons will also be distributed to those who need to get to a job interview or a doctor's appointment.

For more information, call the Help Center at 348-6046. To make a monetary donation by mail, send check or money order to CCCCHC, P.O. Box 1115, Grayling, MI 49738.

Creating civic-minded citizens is goal of GHS program

by Susan Warrington
Staff Writer

In an effort to create more well-rounded, civic minded citizens, students enrolled at Grayling High School (GHS) are required to complete 40 hours of community service in order to graduate.

Community service is defined as any volunteer activity that benefits the community. Examples are shoveling sidewalks for senior citizens or helping with marathons at Hanson Hills; helping out at the library, animal shelter, nursing home or even volunteering at the AuSable River Canoe Marathon.

Ideally, GHS students should plan on serving an average five hours of community service per semester to reach the 40-hour goal. For those students who transfer into the school after the beginning of their freshman or ninth grade year, the number of hours to be served is pro-rated accordingly.

The 40-hour requirement was instituted approximately five years ago when the Crawford AuSable Schools Board of Education adopted the

concept presented by a community group. GHS Principal Brenda Hedden said it is important to educate the person to become an effective citizen, parent, and successful member of the community. "This program helps the student become more aware of the needs of the community," Hedden explained.

The GHS Counseling Office monitors the community service hours for each student. Students also record the number of hours and type of volunteer work done in their portfolio. These portfolios can be used to show prospective employers and/or universities the abilities/activities of the student, in addition to the transcript of their grades.

If an individual or organization in the community needs volunteer help, they should call the counseling office at 344-3512. Needs are then broadcasted in the daily announcements at GHS to make students aware of community service opportunities.

Hedden said several students graduate with more than 300 hours of community service.

\$8 million earmarked for state's heat fund

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has released \$8,401,042 in emergency funds to the state of Michigan under the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Congressman Bart Stupak (D-Menominee) reported on January 24.

These funds are in addition to the \$40.8 million released earlier this month to Michigan for energy assistance to low-income households.

LIHEAP helps eligible families pay for home heating fuel and weatherization to insulate homes. Eligibility and benefit levels for Michigan recipients are determined by Michigan's Family Independence Agency.

"The release of these emergency funds comes as a welcome relief for many Michigan families who find themselves facing increased heating costs due to the recent bitterly cold weather," Stupak said.

On December 20, 2002, Stupak wrote to President Bush, urging immediate release of

\$300 million in emergency LIHEAP funds. The present release of funds totals \$200 million nationwide.

"No one should ever be forced to make a decision between heat and food, or heat and housing, or heat and health care," Stupak wrote the president.

The Senate recently voted to increase funding for LIHEAP in Fiscal Year 2003, from the administration's budget request. "I have fought for years against budget cuts to this very important program. Without it, some men, women and children would be literally left in the cold," Stupak said.

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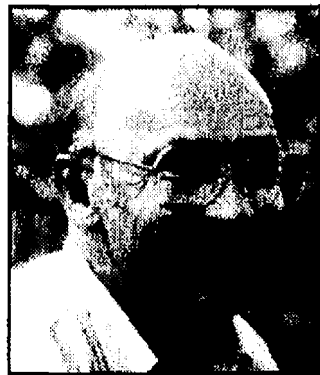
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OPINIONS



ALMANACK

by Richard Milliman

It's back to the farm for Dick Posthumus

WHATEVER HAPPENED to Dick Posthumus?

You remember him, of course. He was once Michigan's lieutenant governor and the Republican candidate for governor last November, who lost to Democrat Jennifer Granholm, so she could become Michigan's first female governor.

Everyone agreed Dick Posthumus is a nice guy. Everyone agreed he was fully qualified by training, experience and temperament to be governor. And except for his most ardent supporters, nearly everyone agreed from the outset of the 2002 campaign for governor that he would lose to Jennifer Granholm.

He came a lot closer to winning than most people thought he would. In fact, Ms. Granholm was the only top Democrat to win a statewide race. So how come she won and he didn't?

In retrospect, according to recent public comment, he figures it came down to money: If only he had another million

or so at his command late in the campaign, he might have won.

Mr. Posthumus also acknowledged a couple of other factors working against him. Some voters felt it was time for a change of parties after 12 years of fellow Republican John Engler in the governor's office. Many voters wanted to help make history by electing Michigan's first woman governor, especially an articulate and glamorous one like Jennifer Granholm.

HE IS PROBABLY right on all counts.

It's not so much that Dick Posthumus lost the race for governor...it's more that Jennifer Granholm won it. There's a difference, and with no sour grapes apparent in his analysis, Mr. Posthumus seems right on target.

As for his future, he says it's back to the farm near Alto for Dick Posthumus, Michigan citizen. Farming has always been his first love, he indicates, as well

as his livelihood.

He may dabble here and there around the fringes of politics, he indicates, maybe something like working on public policy in one way or another.

Following World War I, a popular song about American soldiers who had served in France asked: "How're you going to keep them, down on the farm, after they've seen Parree?"

That sentiment applies to Dick Posthumus, too. Is he going to be content down on the farm, after he's shared the bright lights and infectious lure of being on the inside of everything that goes on at the state capital for the last 20 years?

Dick Posthumus was elected four times to the state senate, once as lieutenant governor. He was Republican leader of the senate for eight years. He's been in the middle of everything that's happened in Michigan state government for two decades.

Is running the farm in Alto going to

pale beside the allure of running the government in Lansing?

MOST LEGISLATORS upon leaving office grasp at almost any way to hang around the capitol or grab some other public office. Dick Posthumus may prove to be the true exception.

How long will his resolve last? At 52, he's young enough to engage several more challenges in the public arena.

If Dick Posthumus can hold on to his decision to trade his political robes for his farmer's overalls, more power to him.

But if he does, someone should erect a statue to him, and place it right beside the statue of Austin Blair, Michigan's Civil War governor, which stands at the entrance to the capitol.

It would be better to be remembered in a trivia quiz on Michigan politics and government as the politician who went home and stayed there, rather than as the losing candidate to Michigan's first

woman governor.

JUST SHOW UP -- One Grand Rapids school came up with a new idea in grading.

Students would have their grades raised for good attendance.

Someone has said that a basic ingredient of success is just showing up, and I heartily agree.

You can't learn anything in school or anywhere else if you're not there on a regular basis.

Every boss treasures employees who show up for work when they are supposed to be there. It's called reliability, and it's worth a lot.

Maybe it would be good to value students' reliability, too.

Richard Milliman is a veteran newspaperman, and a contributing columnist to several Michigan newspapers.

EDITOR

Keeping school played part in consolidation agreement

To the editor,

I'm just writing a little note to express my continued support for the Crawford AuSable School District (CASD).

I have worked toward having CASD be one school district with several buildings. When the

school district was consolidated in the 60s, it was with the agreement that Frederic would always have its own elementary school. There is no way a consolidation issue would have ever passed in Frederic without our elementary school.

I am in the sixth generation of my family to have lived in Crawford County and we have always been staunch supporters of public education and staunch supporters of what is best for our children.

I believe the current actions and inactions by the administration (and the board?) are harmful to the district as a whole and especially the children. I believe in a school district such as ours, with several small communities and three separate elementary schools, budget discussions about the cost of education of students should be about the cost of students in the district, not about how much more it costs in one building or another used as an excuse to close a school.

By allowing this type of discussion, divisions within the school district are created that are far easier to open than they are to heal.

A big disappointment with this issue is that we worked really hard as a community to modernize and expand our facilities throughout the district for the good of all students in the district. We in the old Frederic school district part of CASD were again promised we would keep our elementary with the expansion of the elementary schools in Grayling. (A board resolution copy is enclosed as a reminder.)

Perhaps the biggest disap-

pointment with the current situation is that, as a board member, not only did I work (not without huge help and support) for the passage of the last couple of millage votes, but we also worked as a board to reduce class size (especially early elementary) because we believed this is important in development and early education.

My disappointment comes from the apparent lack of support for a school that could be used to set a shining example of the potential of small classes and small working units to the quality of education of our elementary schools. We have been told for years (all of my life) by education professionals and experts that smaller class sizes, strong principals, and parental involvement are the keys to successful elementary schools. We are proud of the quality of people and the overall success of people who are Frederic alumni.

I want you to know that I support the CASD, and I support in the strongest fashion possible keeping Frederic Elementary open and providing quality elementary education in our small town setting.

Please let us know what we can do to help you keep this fine institution an example of the good things that can come from CASD.

Lewis Madill
Frederic

Where is the heart?

To the editor,

The heart is truly a wonderful organ. Its constant and strong beating provides nourishment to the whole body, and allows for the whole body's growth and well-being.

If anything happens to hurt or limit the heart's ability to function properly, the whole body is affected. A dysfunction spreads throughout its physical and emotional counterparts.

A town has a heart, too. It is its school.

The school nourishes the children of the town, helping to instill in them a love of learning which will sustain them throughout their lives. Parents and the whole school staff work together in close proximity to assure that this love develops to its fullest extent.

The school provides a safe haven for the town's young. It is a place close to home and parents, and close to friends and neighbors.

The school is a town center, drawing all together to participate in the learning process, to help solve problems, or just to enjoy good times.

When others see how healthy and happy the town is, how all the people pulsate with life, they, too, want to become members. What a great place to raise their own families.

We cannot let the heart be taken out of the town of Frederic. We must allow the townspeople to keep their precious school.

Patricia Finn
Grayling

School funding complaints should be aimed at Lansing

To the editor,

Hey, folks! Chill out! Consider this...

1. Kent Reynolds was supposed to be the cause of all your negative attitudes. Hey, didn't you notice, he's gone.

2. Our superintendent is intelligent, warm, outgoing, forthcoming, and so far, honest -- now what is your excuse?

3. School board members serve for four years at \$150 per year (might be a little more since I served), so I know that education and the ability to provide it to the best of their ability is their only agenda. They have nothing personal to gain.

4. For many years starting in the early 80s, for almost a decade when funds were low (due to lack of voter support for millage) Grayling children were sent up to Frederic by volunteering or lottery. Guess what? Things change and turn about. It's what works!

5. We moved here 27 years ago so our kids wouldn't be transported across inner city lines in a metropolitan area -- how can anyone compare that to what's happening in our district?

6. All of you are very articulate and verbal -- do you really

know where you are needed?

We are subject to the dictates of the State -- sorry to say. We need to spend our time, energy, letters and mouths at the state level -- it's called Lansing, governors and legislatures.

Unfortunately, education is not the most important issue in Michigan as well as most of the states in our country. Flexing your mouth in Crawford County cannot change what is -- we need to go further down the pike!

7. Even if we were so inclined to vote for the money to keep Frederic open, it's not possible by law. We can vote for anything else but operational monies. Bet you didn't know that?

8. Finally, it's time we hear from our good citizens who understand, even though they aren't happy with the situation, to speak up and support our administrators and board members who are desperately trying to make the best of a pretty sad state of affairs. It's called "no money" -- how many of us have been there in the last two years?

Pauline Petrosky
Grayling

Court, county employees should keep an open mind

To the editor,

Last week some (Crawford) County employees signed a letter (to the editor) concerning the court-funding dispute. They have some of their facts wrong, which is too bad.

I had asked to be at the meeting that led to the (writing of) letter. My intent in doing so was to have an opportunity for all to get both sides of the story. I was told that my presence was not welcomed.

Had I been at the meeting, I would have told my fellow public servants that a highly-paid consultant produced many of the so-called facts they are relying on. This consultant issued a report in 2002 that contains a lot of misinformation. I believe this misinformation has fueled animosity between different groups of public sector employees and our elected officials.

This misinformation campaign by an outsider has proven effective as evidenced by incorrect statements in last

week's letter. Unfortunately, it has also led Crawford County to continue spending many thousands of dollars for attorneys and this consultant to break agreements between the Court and its other funding units. Also, I believe these distortions negatively influenced our Commissioners to unfairly slash the Court's budget.

The final result of all this misinformation is that the matter is in court where, unfortunately, it now belongs. It will be resolved there. In the meantime, I ask that all fellow public sector employees keep an open mind, not be swayed by untruths and continue working for the common good.

Tom Haskel
Assistant Trial Court
Administrator,
46th Circuit Trial Court,
and Crawford County
Taxpayer
Grayling

Emergency crews deserve a lot of credit

To the editor,

This letter is long overdue.

I was involved in a traffic accident near my home on December 8, 2002. The ambulance response crew and passersby deserve a great deal of credit and my gratitude for their speedy and professional help at a time when I needed them very much.

I don't remember what happened at the scene, but I do know if it weren't for God's intervention and the expert care of these people, I might not be here now.

We take for granted there will be someone there to help if we are in an accident, and they are

there, doing the job they were trained to do. We need to remember to show our gratitude to them for a job well done. I know they get paid to do it, but what price tag would you put on your life?

I might add, we also forget to give God the thanks He deserves for being with us and getting us through in situations like the one I just experienced.

In the future, I am going to try to remember to be more thankful and not take these people, or God, for granted.

Carolyn Rowe
Grayling

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Check us out on the Internet at www.townnews.com/avalanche/

BRIEFS

Legion Auxiliary hosts Chili Cook-Off

As part of the Grayling Winter Fun Days, the American Legion Auxiliary will be hosting the annual Chili Cook-Off at Hanson Hills Recreation Area and Winter Sports Park on Sunday, February 9, from 12 noon to 3 p.m. The contest will be judged by the public by a donation of \$1 to sample and cast a vote. Everyone is invited to come and join in the fun. For more information or to enter the contest, call Wilma at 348-1369.

Eagles Auxiliary to elect delegates

The Grayling Eagles Auxiliary #3465 will hold elections on Thursday, February 6 for their delegates to go to the State Convention in June. Voting will take place at the Eagles Club, 602 Huron Street in Grayling, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. that day.

Church plans all-you-can-eat lunch

Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church, on Michigan Avenue in Grayling, invites everyone to a luncheon of hot and/or cold foods on Thursday, February 6, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Make your own sandwich, etc. Salad and dessert are included. Take-outs will be available. Cost is \$5 per person.

Class of 1978 planning reunion

The Grayling High School graduating class of 1978 is planning its 25 year Class Reunion, scheduled for July 12. Class members are being asked to send updated address information to Jodi Piper Potter, P.O. Box 208, Grayling, MI 49738 or call (989) 348-7517 for more information.

Local girls invited to enter American Girl contest

► Winners will appear on the cover of American Girl Magazine

The American Girl Program has been very popular locally. The Crawford County Library has put on a program for girls ages six to 13 for the last two years.

Because such great interest has been shown by local girls, the Crawford County Library system would like announce a contest offered by American Girl Magazine.

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of American Girl Magazine, Mattel, which owns the publication, is featuring a birthday theme in the January-February 2003 issue. This in turn will kick off a cover girl contest.

The contest will put up to three eight to 13 year old girls on the cover of the November-December 2003 issue. To enter, girls must choose one word -- either caring, fun, creative, loyal, generous, inventive or determined -- that best describes who they are, and then demonstrate that trait in an essay, video,

scrapbook or other creative project.

Finished entries must fit into an 11" x 13" x 2" box, or a smaller package or envelope. Contest deadline is February 28, 2003. Entries will not be returned. Send your entry along with your first and last name, address, birth date and recent school photo to: Cover Contest, American Girl, 8400 Fairway Place, Middleton, WI 53562.

The American Girl Program at the library has been well attended. In 2001, a summer program was offered, featuring craft projects and a contest to win an American Girl doll.

In 2002, the Devereaux Memorial Crawford County Library started the program off with tea at the Hanson House Bed and Breakfast. The girls then met at the library for sessions after school and were taught needlework crafts.

At the end of the session, there was another drawing, sponsored by the Friends of the Library, for one of the American Girl dolls.

The program for 2003 will be held in the fall. Watch for program dates to be posted at the library. For more information, call 348-9124.

Senior companions needed

The Senior Companion Program of Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency (NEMCSA) has openings for new volunteers.

Senior Companions can be found doing what friends do for friends -- assisting with grocery shopping, preparing and sharing a meal, providing transportation to a medical appointment, talking about old times and new challenges, and easing loneliness. By doing so, the homebound senior is able to maintain a higher level of independent living.

Senior Companions also provide respite services for families caring for a loved one at home.

Volunteers are age 60 or older, have an income of \$11,075 for a household of one or \$14,925 for a household of two. Adjustments of 15% are allowed if there are high medical expenses for the applicant.

There are no educational requirements. Direct benefits include a non-taxable stipend, monthly trainings, transportation

RAFFLE WINNERS

Grayling Youth Booster Club
Week ending January 26 - \$25 each: Oscar Dickinson, Jan Thorne, Rita Watts, and Bob Cinciala.

Coast Guard offers boating skills class

► Boaters, PWC operators urged to get certified before summer season

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will be teaching the Boating Skills and Seamanship class during the month of February.

The class will meet for six sessions every Tuesday and Thursday, beginning Thursday, February 6. Classes will be held at Roscommon High School and each session will begin at 6:30 p.m. Please note, the meeting place may change.

This class meets all state and federal requirements for boat and personal watercraft (PWC)

operation. The topics to be covered will be: state regulations and requirements; piloting your boat; rules and right of way; weather and boating; proper radio communication; lines and knots; and basic navigation.

The class size is limited to the first 15 people to register. There is a fee for text and materials only. Family discounts are available.

Boaters are urged to get their certification now and be ready before the upcoming boating season.

For more information or to register, call DSO 9th Central Region Coast Guard Auxiliary Public Education Master Instructor Don Warren at 821-9553, or Frank Homola at 821-7833.

Controlled Burn series begins February 5

► Book readings are free, open to the public; book signings follow

Gerry LaFemina, who built a creative writing program at Kirtland that became a national model, returns to Roscommon to anchor the Winter 2003 Controlled Burn Reading series.

A known writer in poetry and fiction circles, the former Kirtland instructor will read from his body of work on April 23. LaFemina was instrumental in building the nation's first associate's degree in fine arts/creative writing.

Peter Ho Davis, director of the Creative Writing Program at the University of Michigan and the author of the award-winning book, *The Ugliest House in the World*, opens the Winter series on February 5. He is the winner of the Oregon Book Award, the PEN/MacMillan Prize and the John Llewellyn Rhys Prize. Other works include *Equal Love*, and his stories and essays have appeared in *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Harpers*, *The Paris Review*, *Ploughshares*, *The Washington Post* and *The Chicago Tribune*.

Poet and Michigan native Kathleen McGookey, author of *Whatever Shines*, will read on March 12. Her work also has appeared in the anthologies, *The Party Train: A Collection of*

North American Prose Poetry, *The Best of the Prose Poem*, *An International Journal*, and *New Poems from the Third Coast: Contemporary Michigan Poetry*. She has been writer-in-residence at Interlochen Fine Arts Academy and has also taught at Western Michigan University and Hope College.

LaFemina's latest work, *Graffiti Heart*, won the 2001 Piccione/MAMMOTH Books Poetry Prize. His other books include *23 Below*, *Shattered Hours: Poems 1988-94*, and *Zarathustra in Love*. Other works have appeared in the anthologies *American Poetry: the Next Generation* and *New Poems from the Third Coast: Contemporary Michigan Poetry*. He now teaches at his alma mater, Sarah Lawrence College.

All Controlled Burn readings are free, open to the public and handicap accessible. A reception, with book signing, follows. All events are preceded by a 4 p.m. question-and-answer session. For more information, phone (989) 275-5000, Ext. 220 or visit online at www.kirtland.cc.mi.us/cburn/series.htm.

HONORS

Hope College

Hope College announced Lindsey Voelker of Grayling was named to the Dean's List for the first semester of the 2002-03 school year.

Michigan State University

Michigan State University announced that Brooke J. Ginther, Daniel R. Mead and Amanda S. Trudgeon all of Grayling earned a 3.5 or better grade point average for the fall semester of the 2002 school year.

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<http://www.acehardware.com>

The Bible Speaks

Reagan's Fearlessness from God

Again we quote from Reagan's War, The Epic Story of His Forty-Year Struggle and Final Triumph Over Communism as written by Peter Schweizer. He said, "Reagan came to believe that his life had been spared by God for a divine purpose: defeating communism." God was the source of Reagan's courage. In 1946 he refused to secretly enter Warner Brothers studios during a communist led strike. He insisted on daily riding a bus directly through the picket line. He soon became known as "a tower of strength" and "fearless foe" against the communists.

Later as Governor of California he planned to meet with the board of regents at Berkeley over the violent protests led by Students for a democratic Society (SDS) and other war protestors. Again he refused to take a "circular route" to avoid the thousands of students. He entered the front door of University Hall as many jeered. Reagan said, "We have been picked at, sworn at, rioted against, and downgraded until we have a built-in guilt complex, and this has been compounded by the accusations of our sons and daughters who pride themselves on 'telling it like it is.' Reagan said of Americans, "No people in all history paid a higher price for freedom. And no people have done so much to advance the dignity of man." He said, "I think on our side is civilization and on the other side is the law of the jungle. We all have to

recognize that this country has been handed the responsibility, greater than any nation in history, to preserve some 6,000 years of civilization against the barbarians."

Soon death threats became a daily occurrence for Reagan. He was troubled that the country might be losing its sense of purpose, duty, and resolve. He had great respect for war heroes like his good friend Audie Murphy. Men like General George S. Patton inspired him. (Ol, Blood and Guts). Reagan said, "War very often brings out the noblest in men" Reagan believed Moscow was using "fear of the bomb" as a tool against us in an attempt to weaken our national courage.

Reagan is quoted as saying back in 1978, "My idea of American policy toward the Soviet Union is simple, and some would say simplistic. It is this: We win and they lose. What do you think of that?" Reagan believed in striving for peace, but "when somebody's out there killing your young men, you should never free the enemy of the concern he might have for what you might do." He believed the first law of war is to keep your enemy guessing what force you may use. (Pacifism only encourages military aggression.)

Reagan as President was presented with a continuity-of-government plan in case of a nuclear threat that would hustle him on a helicopter to a safe location. Reagan shook his head and

said, "No, I'm not going to do that. If it happens, God forbid, I'm not going anywhere. I'm staying here at my post." As Schweizer said later, "Reagan was determined to change the psychological climate of the Cold War, and he wanted to go beyond mere words. Reagan had learned God's secret of courage found in Prov. 29:25: "The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe." "It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man." (Psa. 118:8) We still need God's courage today. Pastor "B"

Please pray for God's blessings upon the ministry of this column and our church Website at <http://www.i2k.net/~cba>. We at Calvary Baptist Church invite you to learn more from the Bible about Jesus Christ. Join us in a verse by verse study of the gospel of John each Sunday.

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Boy Scouts reach out to serve more

► Campaign directed at civic, religious groups, meeting Feb. 5

In February, the Lake Huron Area Council Boy Scouts of America (BSA) will join with area religious and community organizations in a national effort to serve more youth with Scouting's character-building programs.

"The campaign, entitled, "Character Connections - Reaching Youth with Scouting," will run from January 1 through June 30 and will be supported by a national videoconference on February 5, hosted by the Lake Huron Council at Kirtland Community College at 12 noon in room 136 of the Administration Building. AuSable District (Crawford, Oscoda, Roscommon, Ogemaw, and Iosco counties) Scouting representatives will also take part in the meeting.

The videoconference will be co-hosted by the BSA's national president, Roy S. Roberts; national commissioner, Rick Cronk; and Chief Executive, Roy L. Williams; and will include commentaries, testimonials, and a special message from President George W. Bush.

This campaign is directed at religious and community organizations that share an interest with the BSA in serving youth and will emphasize the positive impact these organizations can have on their communities and neighborhoods through cooperative efforts with Scouting.

"Scouting is a way for community organizations to share their beliefs and values with young people and to build stronger ties with the youth members and families they serve," said Dale Holbrook, Scout Executive, Lake Huron Area Council. "Working together we can make a real difference in our communities and neighborhoods."

According to Chief Scout

Executive Williams, community organizations are the place to cultivate Scouting because those organizations know the importance of instilling character in youth.

"In order to recruit youth into the program, you have to have Scouting units for them to join," Williams said. "Our goal with Character Connections is to show religious and community organizations how Scouting can benefit them and encourage those organizations to adopt the Scouting program for their families."

"If they already have Scouting units, we want to encourage them to build on what they're doing to take full advantage of all the programs Scouting offers," Williams said.

Organizations interested in Scouting should contact AuSable District Executive Brad Murray at (989) 275-9871 or log on to: www.lhacbsa.org for more information.

HOMETOWN NEWS

50th Wedding Anniversary

Jim and Joyce Fox of Grayling celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on December 27, 2002.

They were married at the Mills Memorial Baptist Church in

Mayville.

Mr. and Mrs. Fox and their children celebrated the special occasion with an evening at the Rowe Inn in Ellsworth and a trip to Nashville, TN, where they enjoyed the Opryland Hotel and

other activities in Nashville.

The couple has three children: Gary and Denae Fox, Debra and Steven Walker, and Kaylynn Fox. They have three grandchildren: Stacie Walker, and Emily and Wesley Fox.



SUNDAY	Acts	9:26-43
MONDAY	Acts	8:26-40
TUESDAY	Mark	10:1-16
WEDNESDAY	Mark	10:17-31
THURSDAY	Mark	10:32-45
FRIDAY	Mark	10:46-52
SATURDAY	Deuteronomy	6:1-9

It's Time to Redecorate

"Honey, I think it's time for some changes. Let's redecorate the house. OK? Do you hear me? Honey?"

Just the mention of the word "redecorate" has struck many a spouse deaf and the process has blown budgets high in the sky, yet it's hard to deny the exhilarating effects of a change of scene. A kaleidoscope of color swatches, reams of wallpaper, and a megadose of television "instruction" can certainly trigger the adrenaline.

Yes, with time, money, and effort, we can change our surroundings...and that is fine. Yet what is the answer to happiness if the "new" becomes boring once more. Perhaps we need spiritual "adrenaline"?

The answer lies in God's Word. "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well." [Matthew 6:33] What are "these things"? When you give your life to God, you will live in such a way that your spirit is always full and alive. You will feel satisfied.

Won't you worship this week? Learn the feeling of satisfaction that never fades. The results are guaranteed...when you follow the instructions.

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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Christian Science Society

209 First St. - Suite 103 - Gaylord

(989) 732-7001

Sunday Service.....10:30 am

April through October

2nd & 4th Wednesday.....7 pm

Sunday School.....10:30 am

Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeffrey Jagers

400 Michigan Ave. • 348-2974

Website: www.mmm-umc.org

Barrier Free

Sunday Worship.....8:30 & 11 am

Sunday School-

Sept. - May

Adult Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.

Children's Sunday School.....11 am

(Childcare Available during 11:00 service)

Bible Study (Wed).....10:30am

Seventh Day Adventist

Pastor Jeff Arthur

Phone 989-275-1061

Services held Saturday at

Camp AuSable off M-72 East

(1st building on right inside camp entrance)

Church Service

Saturday.....9:30 am

Sabbath School

Saturday.....10:30 am

Prayer Meeting

Tuesday.....7 pm

Lovells Chapel

Pastor Rev. D. Dean Coursey

Sunday School.....10 am

Chapel Service.....11 am

Wednesday

Prayer Meeting.....7-8 pm

Free Methodist

Joseph Carpenter - Pastor

Daniel Baldernann-Associate Pastor

6652 (M-72 W.) • 348-9093

or 348-5362

Early Service.....8:30 am

Sunday School.....10 am

Morning Service.....11 am

Prayer Meeting (Wednesday) 7 pm

Emma Lowery United Church Of Christ

3474 West Park Road, Luzerne

Sunday Worship.....11 am

Adult and Youth

Sunday School.....9:30 am

Heritage Baptist

Pastor Ernie Wagner 348-1411

1841 Hartwick Pines Rd.

1/4 mile west of I-75

Sunday School.....9:45 am

Morning Worship.....11 am

Evening Worship.....6 pm

Wednesday.....7 pm

Grayling Assembly of God

Rev. Ron Voelker, Pastor

701 S. I-75 Business Loop

Church 348-8885

Parsonage 348-2588

Sunday School.....9:30 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Evening Service.....6 pm

Wednesday - Family Night

Adult-Youth-Children.....7 pm

The Church of Christ with the Elijah Message

Pastor Paul Rolfe

7662 Kelly Ave., Frederic

Sunday

Worship.....10 am & 7 pm

Wed. Prayer Service.....7 pm

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

President David Page

600 North Elm Street, Gaylord

Sacrament.....10 am

Sunday School.....11 am

Primary.....11 am

Priesthood.....12 noon

Relief Society.....12 noon

Burning Bush Tabernacle

Pastor Patricia Petrie, 348-1278

501 E. Michigan Ave., Grayling

Sunday School.....10 am

Sunday Service &

Children's Church.....11 am

Sunday Evening Service.....6 pm

Monday Prayer Meeting.....7 pm

Wednesday Bible Study.....7 pm

St. John Lutheran (ELCA)

Appointed Pastor Victor Slayman

710 Spruce Street

348-5224

Sunday School.....9:15 am

Sunday Worship.....10:30 am

Community of Christ

Pastor Carol Stephan

North Down River Rd. at

1030 Glenn Rd. • P.O. Box 1188

Church School.....9:45 am

Preaching.....11 am

Midweek Service Prayer.....7 pm

Friendship Church

A Christian Reformed Ministry

Rev. Dick Oberg, Pastor

415 Ohio North, Gaylord

Sunday School.....10 am

Morning Worship.....11 am

Tue. Women's Bible Study.....10 am

Wed. Men's Bible Study.....12 noon

St. Mary's Roman Catholic Community

Robert W. Nalley, J.V., Pastor

700-708 Peninsular - 348-7657

Sabbath Eucharist

Sunday Vigil Mass.....6 pm

Sunday Masses.....8:00 am

Family Mass.....10:00 am

Scripture Study

(Sundays).....9:15 am

Daily Masses.....8:30 am

Wednesday & Fridays.....8:30 am

First Baptist Church of Frederic

Pastor Dale Hammond

Sunday School.....9:45 am

Morning Worship.....11 am

Evening Worship.....6 pm

Wed. Prayer & Bible Study.....7 pm

St. Francis Episcopal

M-72 West

Office 348-5850

Sunday Holy

Eucharist.....8:30 & 10:30 am

Resurrection Life Church

Pastor Jimmie McWatters

Grayling Days Inn Conference Room

Sunday Service.....10:30 am

Phone: 231-536-7933, Fax: 231-536-3046

Wednesday.....7 pm

(call or e-mail for directions)

Website: www.rlcnow.com

E-mail: pastorjim@rlcnow.com

Calvary Baptist Church

Dr. Robert Barnett, Pastor

M-72 West

Sunday School.....9:45 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Evening Worship.....6 pm

Mid-Week Services

Wednesday.....7 pm

Prayer & Awana Club (Wed.) 7 pm

Church of Christ

Scott Hoffer, Pastor

Old US-27 at Skyline Rd.

275-8613

In Search of the Lord's Way

Sunday Mornings on

TV 29 & 8.....9 am

Sunday Classes.....10 am

Sunday Worship.....11 am

Sunday Evening.....6 pm

Wednesday

Mid-Week Bible Study.....7 pm

Abundant Life Tabernacle

Pastor Lyle Studer

211 Shellenbarger St.

348-5325

Sunday School.....10 am

Sunday

Worship.....11 am & 6:00 pm

Wednesday Evening.....7 pm

Grayling Baptist Church

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Pastor Terry Colby

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348-2557

Sunday School.....9:45 am

Morning Worship.....11 am

Evening Service.....6 pm

Wednesday Service.....7 pm

Bear Lake Christian

M-72 & East Bear Lake Rd.

Sunday School.....9 am

Sunday Service.....10 am

Luzerne Baptist

Pastor James Durfee

2247 Durfee Lane

Sunday School.....10 am

Sunday Morning Worship.....11 am

Sunday Evening Worship.....6 pm

Wednesday Bible Study.....7 pm

Harvest Time Church of God

Pastor Fred Coates

506 North Birch St., Kalkaska

(231) 258-3448

Sunday School.....10 am

Worship Service.....11 am & 6 pm

Family Training Hour and Prayer

Wednesday.....7 pm

Mt. Hope Evangelical Lutheran--Missouri Synod

Pastor - Rev. Steven Thiel

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348-5921

Wed. Morning Bible Study.....9:30 am

Saturday Worship.....5:00 pm

Sunday Worship.....10:30 am

Unity Church of Today North

Terry Dickinson, Minister

Forbush Corners, Frederic

(989) 348-1584

Sunday Services.....9:00 am

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Herbert R. Filter - Pastor

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Outman, Christie marry



Mr. and Mrs. Barry Christie

Barry and Ginger LaForge wish to announce the marriage of their daughter, Danae Shelly Outman, to Mr. Barry Christie. An intimate ceremony took place in Grayling on December 29, 2002. Bridal and maid of honor gowns were designed by Ginger LaForge. The couple makes their home in Lansing.

Clark, Essmaker engaged



Matthew Clark and Esmeralda Essmaker

John and Maritza Essmaker would like to announce the engagement of their daughter Esmeralda Esperanza Essmaker to Matthew Jay Clark. Both currently reside in Grayling. The groom's parents are Dan and Pat Clark of Grand Rapids.

RANGE FIRING

Range firing scheduled during January 29 - February 4, is as follows:

The Range 40 Air to Ground Complex, located north of County Rd. 612, east of Guthrie Lake, south of Old State Rd. 618, and west of County Rd. F97 (Twin Bridge Rd.) will be conducting live and inert bombing operations by the Air National Guard during the following dates: January 29 - 30, February 1, February 4.

Small Arms Ranges located west of Lake Margrethe, north of Howe Road, east of the gas pipeline and south of Portage Creek: February 1 - 2.

Heavy weapons range firing is scheduled from sunrise until three hours after sunset. Occasionally, the Post Commander without additional notice to the public may authorize mission-firing requirements beyond this time. This firing schedule is subject to change without notice to the public.

Contact the Grayling Department of Natural Resources

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DISTRICT HEALTH #10 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

District Health Department No. 10, Grayling office, has scheduled the following clinics/classes for February. Please call 348-7800 for appointments.

Immunization clinics: February 5 and 19.

Family planning: February 14 and 28.

Optional/confidential HIV/AIDS testing: Call for appointment.

WIC Supplemental Food Program for pregnant women, infants and children: February 5, 10, 13, 17, 19, 20, 24 and 27.

Breast and cervical cancer screening: February 12. Call 1-800-968-7300 to schedule an appointment. This program is available to women ages 40 - 64, who have limited or no health insurance.

Free Hearing and Vision screening, children 3 - 18, Head Start Building: February 28.

Other services are available; call (989) 348-7800 for appointment.

Other health services include: Maternal/Infant support - Families Matter, Environmental Health (well and septic permits, food service, water testing, etc.), HIV/AIDS testing, OSHA Bloodborne Pathogen Standard Training session. Free hearing and vision screenings for ages three - 18 years by appointment.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Crawford County Sheriff Kirk Wakefield reports his office handled the following 103 complaints the week of January 20-26:

(Approximately 41 of the accident totals listed -- traffic and non-traffic -- occurred during snowy periods.) Thirty-seven traffic accidents, six non-traffic accidents, one traffic safety public appearance, four civil matter disputes, family trouble, one suspicious situations, 18 general non-criminal, two structure fires, six delinquent minors, three false alarm activations, one criminal sexual conduct/sexual assault, two assault/intimidation/stalking, one larceny, one motor vehicle theft, one non-sufficient funds check, one fraud - no account check, one damage to property, 10 public peace/disorderly, two conservation, one OUIL/UBAL, two health and safety, one conservation, one miscellaneous criminal offense, two driving violations/driving while license suspended, etc.

For more information, log on to: www.crawfordsheriff.org.

as scheduled; Mi Child and Healthy Kid Insurance Programs; Health Promotion Programs - Smoking Cessation Classes - Abstinence Education (and various health topic presentations by health educators).



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Surprise Your Valentine

with a Valentine greeting in the Avalanche.

Deadline is Monday, February 10th to appear in the February 13th issue.

2c x 4" - \$20

Sending hugs & kisses to Bailey Lynn, our littlest Valentine!

Love, Grandpa & Grandma Millikin

1c x 2" - \$5

Captain, You are the best. I Love You. Princess

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MERCY HOSPITAL GRAYLING

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February is Healthy Heart MONTH

Health Heart Event

Dr. Brian Gedeon will be available to discuss heart disease and answer questions, along with healthy-heart meal planning and recipes, and information on heart disease and its relationship to diabetes. Free healing touch and massage therapy will also be provided along with cholesterol and blood sugar screenings, body fat analysis, and strength testing. For more information, call (989) 348-0489.

Mercy Family Care - Prudenville
February 6, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Free Glucose and Blood Pressure Screenings

Mercy Family Care - Roscommon
February 5, 8 - 10 am
Mercy Family Care - Prudenville
February 12, 8 - 10 am
Mercy Hospital Grayling
February 17, 8 - 10 am

Other Offerings in February

Therapeutic Touch

Learn the basic concepts and techniques of Therapeutic Touch. Cost is \$40, and preregistration is required by calling (989) 348-0888.

February 1, 8:30 am - 4 pm

Diabetes Support Group

Mercy Family Care - Roscommon
February 5, 1 - 2 pm
Mercy Family Care - Prudenville
February 12, 1 - 2 pm
Mercy Hospital Grayling
February 18, 1 - 2 pm

American Red Cross Adult CPR

Become CPR certified in this one-session class. Cost is \$24, and preregistration is required by calling (989) 348-0888.

February 12, 6:30 - 10 pm

Diabetes Education

This individual class is designed to help people with diabetes understand and self-manage the disease. Appointments are available in Grayling, Prudenville, and Roscommon. For more information, call (989) 348-0380.

Get Interactive!

Many classes are available live at community hospitals throughout northern Michigan via the REMEC TeleHealth Network. Call Mercy Hospital Grayling for availability.

For a complete list of offerings, visit us online at MERCYGRAYLING.MUNSONHEALTHCARE.ORG.

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Lions give students Liberty Day books



The Grayling Lions Club is giving all 7th - 12th graders in the Crawford AuSable Schools and Calvary Baptist Academy a copy of the Liberty Day Michigan booklet, pocket size books containing the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States. Liberty Day is a non-partisan, non-profit volunteer effort to educate Americans about these important documents. It is about a day in the school year when the focus is on teaching about our country. The Lions will distribute 1,160 booklets. Grayling Lions Club president Bob Weller, Secretary Bob Gingerich and Project Chairman Bob Prause presents the booklets to Crawford AuSable School's Superintendent Milli Haug.

LIBRARY NEWS

Devereaux Memorial Library
Kirtland Community College (KCC) will be offering Community Education classes at the library over the next few months: February 4 - Genealogy; March 4 - Sign Language; March 18 - Wood Carving; April 8 - Photography; April 22 - Poetry Appreciation; and May 20 - Stained Glass.

Classes will be held 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. each date and the cost is \$35 per class. A limited number of scholarships are available. Call KCC to register at 275-5000, ext. 351.

Friends of Crawford County Libraries are updating and upgrading the book and media collections in the new library, and at the Lovells, Frederic and Beaver Creek branch libraries. In the past year alone, Friends has donated over \$13,500 in new books and audio tapes for the library collections.

Friends has been replacing worn copies of some favorite authors with donated books and purchases through Internet used book sources, but are still in need of good, hard-covered editions of the following:

Various titles by Patricia Cornwell, James Patterson, Robin Cook, James Clavell and Leona Blair, especially *Woman's Place*, *Privilege*, and *With this Ring*. Also, Stephen King's *Insomnia*, *Salem's Lot*, *The Drawing of Three*, and *Waste Lands*. Hard covers by Robert Ludlum and W.E.B. Griffin are also in demand and need replacing.

Donations may be dropped off at the Devereaux Memorial Library, 201 Plum Street in Grayling or call Shirley Schmooch at 348-5132 to arrange for pick up.

The Friends are still going over the inventory and believe they will be looking in the near future for classic titles by Hemingway and Hawthorne.

HOMETOWN MILITARY NEWS



Pvt. Vance A. Helzer

Company 1/126th Armor Division. Sending him off are his wife, Susan, and six children.

Air Force Airman Aaron M. McClain has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

McClain is the son of James and Kim McClain of Grayling.

Scott and Kris Bly along with big brother Justin and big sister Sara announce the arrival of Lauren Marie Elizabeth Bly, born on January 23, 2003. She weighed seven pounds, eleven ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long and was born at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Waterford.

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Nursing Centre residents celebrate 'Super Bowl Friday'



Staff and residents of Grayling Nursing Centre were encouraged to dress in their favorite football team colors and celebrate "Super Bowl Friday" on January 24. The day was filled with activities related to Super Bowl XXXVII. Trivia games, Bingo (called by Grayling Middle School students and Grayling High School Varsity Viking cheerleaders) and even a football game between residents and staff were enjoyed by many. The GHS Viking cheerleaders are shown here entertaining the residents. The real Super Bowl XXXVII was played Sunday, January 26. The Tampa Bay Buccaneers defeated the Oakland Raiders by a score of 48-21.

Local writer featured in Ohio publication

The work of Cathy Lester, of Grayling, has been published in the current issue of *Kaleidoscope: Exploring the Experience of Disability through Literature and the Fine Arts*.

Lester's interview with British actor, Nabil Shaban, entitled, "The Wheels of Khan: An Interview with Nabil Shaban," appears in issue number 46 of the magazine and was selected from among more than 200 submissions considered for publication.

Lester earned a bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University in 1965 and a master's degree from the University of Michigan in 1972. She is cur-

rently a writer and formerly taught English as a foreign language, having lived in Columbia, Singapore, England, Iran, and Saudi Arabia. Lester said, "From living overseas, I've always been interested in the 'alternative' or 'outsider's' point of view."

Her short stories, articles and book reviews have appeared in various magazines and newspapers. She has a book of short stories entitled *Surf Patrol*. Her short stories, "Over-Eager" and "Uncle Peter," have both won awards.

Kaleidoscope Magazine is published by United Disability Services in Akron, Ohio and

expresses the experiences of disability from the perspective of individuals, families, healthcare professionals and society as a whole.

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VIEWPOINT

Michigan Press Association

Public Notices: Your right to know

The public's right to know is more than an idea. It is news and information delivered right to your door. When it comes to public notices, you may not think about this, but here at your local newspaper we do every day.

Currently and historically, newspapers are designated by law to publish public notices, and we are proud to fulfill this role in an open, democratic society founded on the constitutional right of a free press. Our purpose and dedication is to serve your right to know.

Your newspaper is first and foremost an independent third party keeping vigil on government, and ideally positioned to publish public notices with a thorough, objective point of view, as they become news or official information important to citizens.

Public notices cover important government information affecting people, business and communities in three primary categories:

(1) Actions by government that are the "public's right to

know" allowing citizens the time and opportunity to react; (2) Government bids and purchases handled in an atmosphere of equal opportunity, and to ensure that tax money is spent wisely; and

(3) Notices fulfilling "due process" by courts or authorities that are taking actions against citizens and/or business.

Public notice can include issues such as zoning changes, tax increases, allocation of tax dollars for government projects and expenditures, and legislative proposals by local and state government -- topics that clearly affect your life and community.

It is the good news of government that Michigan statutes specify publications containing "news and editorial content" as "newspapers" for the purpose of public notice publication and delivery. And these statutes are based on solid criteria.

First, newspapers are of general circulation, accessible to all. Second, they are published on a regular basis and circulated in the local subdivision affected by the notice. Third, a "newspa-

per" offers verifiable and traceable proof of "due process" assuring notices are available for citizens to see and read.

Essentially, your newspaper is a historical document, printed and published with a date on every page. It is the medium that delivers the news and information that is important to you in a timely and verifiable format. Furthermore, it remains the medium you rely on to gain and confirm government related news.

A 1998 readership survey conducted by American Opinion Research for the Michigan Press Association shows that more than half of a newspaper's readers read public notices. Seventy percent read the newspaper for court news, 70% for Michigan government news, 71% for political news and information, and 90% for news about their hometown.

Clearly you have taken notice. This is the critical value of public notice in your newspaper -- your right to know, delivered right to your door.

HONORS

Northwestern Michigan College
Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City announced that Ryan Casey of Grayling has been named to the Dean's List for the Fall Semester, 2002.

The Dean's List recognizes outstanding academic achievement of full-time students who do unusually well in their studies. Students who have achieved a current grade point average of 3.5 or above out of a possible 4.0 are recognized.

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Hanson Hills benefits from students' fundraiser

A fundraiser was held Friday and Saturday, January 10 and 11, to help Hanson Hills Recreation Area in Grayling Township.

The fundraiser, held at Bloomin' Grape, combined a bake sale and chamber music provided by students from Grayling Middle School.

On Saturday, the Bloomin' Grape donated \$1 from each sandwich sold in addition to a percentage of total sales on Saturday.

Charlotte Mosel, owner of the local delicatessen, said money is needed for maintenance and operation at Hanson Hills, a sports park funded by local millage monies and revenue from downhill skiing, tubing, sledding, and cross country skiing each winter.

In the warmer months, concerts are offered and organized softball, soccer, and t-ball games can be found in full swing at the park. There is also an indoor skate park for in-line skaters and skateboarders.

Mosel said she felt the event was one way to help a place that



Abby Wheeler (left) and Alyssa Lewis take care of the bake sale while Alexzandra Mosel, Jessie Bobenmoyer, Amanda Jackson and Monica Leslie play chamber music at the recent fundraiser.

offers a lot to the residents of Crawford County.

In addition to the bake sale there was a contest to guess the

number of lollipops and pennies in a jar. Brian Chase won that contest.

Mosel said a total of \$236 was

raised over the weekend for Hanson Hills.

For more information about Hanson Hills, call 348-9266.

MILITARY NEWS

Army National Guard Pfc. Marc A. Kiefer has arrived at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Aberdeen, Maryland, to complete the wheeled vehicle repairer advanced individual training (AIT) course.

The student will be trained to troubleshoot, repair, replace and adjust all related engine, fuel, air and cooling systems, electrical chassis, mechanical and hydraulic components, systems, and assemblies of wheeled vehicles and diesel power plants/packs. Additional instruction will include use of technical publications, tools, and diagnostic equipment needed to repair wheeled vehicles.

Kiefer is the son of James and Pamela Kiefer of Grayling.

He is a 1999 graduate of Grayling High School.

Army National Guard Pvt. Keil F. Clough has arrived at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Aberdeen, Maryland, to complete the wheeled vehicle repairer advanced individual training (AIT) course.

The student will be trained to troubleshoot, repair, replace and adjust all related engine, fuel, air and cooling systems, electrical chassis, mechanical and hydraulic components, systems, and assemblies of wheeled vehicles and diesel power plants/packs.

Additional instruction will include use of technical publications, tools, and diagnostic equipment needed to repair wheeled vehicles.

Clough is the son of Art E. and Diane M. Clough of Grayling. He graduated in 2002 from Grayling High School.

Attention members of the military and their families: The Crawford County Avalanche welcomes Military News. Our main source of military news comes from Public Affairs Officers serving fleets, companies, and training centers. Make sure you tell your PAO that the *Avalanche* is your hometown newspaper.

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CRAWFORD COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY WEEKDAY SCHEDULED SERVICES TO:

FREDERIC & MAPLE FOREST

Leaves Grayling	5:45 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	6:45 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	9:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	11:30 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	3:30 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	5:00 p.m.

LOVELLS

Leaves Grayling	9:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	11:30 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	3:30 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	5:00 p.m.

M-72 EAST

Leaves Grayling	6:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	7:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	9:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	11:30 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	1:30 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	3:30 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	5:00 p.m.

M-72 WEST

Demand Response Service
Calls Worked in Between Other Runs

BEAVER CREEK & ROSCOMMON

Leaves Grayling	7:30 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	11:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	1:00 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	2:15 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	4:30 p.m.

*The 1:00 p.m. south run does not go all the way into Roscommon.

To Request Weekday Demand Response Services
Call Dispatch @ 348-5409.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR CHILDREN LESS THAN 10 YEARS OLD

- Children less than 4 years of age must be accompanied by a parent, babysitter or other responsible person when riding on a CCTA vehicle.
- Children, less than 6 years of age, are to be retained on the bus at the point of destination until a responsible adult, or prequalified babysitter walks to the bus and assists the child in exiting the vehicle.
- A complete copy of related program policies will be provided upon request.

NON EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

Transportation dependent individuals requiring services to health care facilities providing specialized medical services not available locally may qualify for nonemergency medical transportation services.

For information regarding this program contact:
Dave Frederick @ 348-8215

SPECIAL EVENT TRIPS**

SCHEDULED FOR February 2003

Trip #1:

Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2003
Destination: Turtle Creek Casino - Traverse City
Departs Grayling: 9:00 a.m.
Arrives Back In Grayling: 4:00 p.m. (Approximately)

**Special Event Trips Require: (1) a minimum of twenty-two passengers; and (2) that passengers less than 18 years of age be accompanied by a responsible adult.

To Reserve Seats or Request Information Concerning
Special Event Trips
Call Richard or Gary @ 348-4101

Grayling Kiwanis Club celebrates 68 years

January 18, 1935 was the beginning of the Grayling Kiwanis Club. It is very different now compared to its beginnings.

The name Kiwanis originates from the Ojibwe Indian language. Its meaning is "we trade" or "we share our talents." Kiwanis was organized in 1914 in Detroit by Allen S. Browne and received a charter from the State of Michigan in 1915.

The original 30 members consisted of Grayling businessmen and community leaders who would meet to discuss and exchange business and services among members. Early programs included Talks on Business, International and District Day, Open Forums (to discuss business issues), Service Clubs to help the community, and The Banker Under the New Deal.

Today, membership is open to all individuals who want to make a contribution to the community. Kiwanis Clubs, including the Grayling club, view their role within their communities with a great deal of foresight. Key aspects to operating an effective club include:

- Evaluating both children's issues and community needs on an ongoing basis.
- Conducting service projects to respond to those identified needs.
- Maintaining an active membership roster of professional business people who have both the desire and the ability to serve the community.

Club meetings are conducted once a week and offer an atmosphere of fun, learning, and fellowship. In addition to attending the meetings, the typical Kiwanian volunteers each month



Photo courtesy of Grayling Kiwanis

The Grayling Kiwanis Club is celebrating 68 years of community service. The Board of Directors for 2003 include, from left: (back row) Vice President Jeddy Hood, Trustee Janet Varney-Small, Treasurer Melanie Richardson, Secretary Dawn McGee, and Trustees Bob Bovee, Bill Bush, and Kay Cosgray; (seated) Trustees Beverly O'Connor and Al Johnston, District Lt. Gov. Sharon Coppock, President Lynn Porritt-McConnell.

to assist with club service projects.

Service projects often are linked to the Kiwanis program, "Young Children: Priority One." This initiative places continuing focus on the needs of children in pediatric trauma, safety, child-care, early development, infant health, nutrition, and parenting skills.

Service projects also can address other needs within the community, such as working to stop substance abuse, helping the elderly, promoting literacy, supporting youth sports and recreation, responding to disasters, and supporting specific persons

in need.

Kiwanis also plays a key role in the development of future leaders. K-Kids clubs at the elementary school level, Builders Clubs in middle schools and junior high, Key Clubs in high schools, and Circle K clubs at the collegiate level all are Kiwanis organizations that teach community service and leadership skills to young people.

In addition, Aktion Clubs are made up of adults with mental and physical disabilities who enthusiastically perform service to help others.

The 2003 Grayling Kiwanis Club Board of Directors includes: President Lynn McConnell, Vice President Jeddy Hood, Secretary Dawn McGee, Treasurer Melanie Richardson, and Trustees Janet Varney-Small, Bob Bovee, Bill Bush, Kay Cosgray, Beverly O'Connor and Al Johnston.

The Board invites anyone interested in joining the Grayling Kiwanis Club to attend any weekly meeting, held Thursdays, from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m., at the Gray Rock Cafe, 2123 Industrial Drive in Grayling.

State, county tackling indoor radon risks

by Corbin Sullivan
Capital News Service

LANSING -- Radon gas is the second-leading cause of lung cancer -- after cigarette smoking -- in the United States, and state and Crawford County health officials are using the winter months as a time to educate those who are at risk.

"It's important that everybody test their houses," said Sue Hendershott, the indoor radon specialist for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

The decomposition of uranium in certain kinds of soil leads to the release of radon, a radioactive gas.

"It really has to do with the glacial shift and how much of that rock is near the surface," said Jane Schneider, a health educator for the health district that covers 10 counties including Crawford County.

Radon is also undetectable to human senses, and there are no symptoms associated with breathing it in, aside from cancer. Hendershott said, "It increases your risk of lung cancer, and the bad thing is that it doesn't give you a warning."

The American Lung Association estimates that radon causes up to 22,000 lung cancer deaths each year in the United States, and it accounts for 12 percent of all cancer-related deaths.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the average Michigan indoor radon level is twice as high as the U.S. average. "Approximately one in eight homes in Michigan have a higher

radon level than the action standard set by the EPA," Hendershott said. "All existing homes need to be tested."

The "action standard" she refers to is 4 picocuries, a measurement of gas levels. Homeowners can test their radon levels with kits sold or given away by state and county health departments.

Most of the areas identified as high risk in Michigan are in the southern part of the state, including Hillsdale, Washtenaw and Lenawee Counties. But areas in northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula have to worry, too.

"It is estimated that hundreds of homes in Crawford County and surrounding area have elevated radon levels," said a report by the Air Quality Control Agency.

The county health department uses January, designated as National Radon Action Month by the EPA, to educate its residents on the dangers of radon.

Schneider said, "The health department provides testing kits free for the month of January, but the kits are only \$5 normally."

She warned that every home is at-risk no matter how it is built. "There's a real myth out there that if you don't have a basement there's no possibility of radon poisoning."

Radon can actually be a problem in any building, from schools to office buildings. But there are ways to ensure that radon will not be a problem after it is discovered.

"If radon is found in a home, it's a fairly easy fix," Schneider said.

To rid a house of high radon levels, a ventilation system can be installed in the basement, and cracks in the foundation wall can be sealed.

New homes can be built so they will never have a radon problem.

A ventilation system is built in from the basement to roof during the construction of a new house. If done early, the system cost is minimal -- between \$350 and \$500.

Hendershott said, "It will be a problem until all homes are built with radon-resistant construction."

To contact the local health department office, call 348-7800.

Do you have asthma, or do you know someone who does? The Grayling Asthma Project can answer your questions and give you free information on asthma. Call us at (989) 348-0779.

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To My Baby Girl

Happy 1st Birthday
Natalyah Essmaker
January 24th
Love Mommy

OBITUARIES

Margery Lillian Smith Aug. 20, 1924-Jan. 22, 2003

Margery Lillian Smith, age 78 of Grayling, died Wednesday, January 22 in Genesee County at Community Home Health and Hospice. She was born on August 20, 1924 to Oscar William and Anna (Kumpula) Keckonen.

Margery was married to Robert K. Bennetts on September 4, 1943 in Detroit. He preceded her in death in 1971. She was remarried to Donald Smith on November 22, 1974, who preceded her in death on September 15, 2000.

Mrs. Smith, a full time resident of Grayling for 20 plus years, spent her weekends and summers in Grayling since the 1960's.

She was a retired Flint Public Schools food service manager at the Sarvis Center. She retired in 1979.

Margery was a member of the Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church. She was a member of the Grayling Country Club. She enjoyed playing bridge, crafts, golf and quilting. She was an accomplished seamstress and took Bishop sewing classes to the highest level. Margery was a wonderful cook and enjoyed cooking for family get togethers. She also enjoyed wintering in Gulf Shores, Alabama for the past 20 years. She loved visiting and socializing with friends and family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Oscar William and Anna Keckonen.

She is survived by one daughter, Nancy Jean Bennetts of Orlando, FL; one son, William L. (Jacquelyn) Bennetts of Swartz Creek; three stepchildren, Nancy (William) Krouse of Defiance, OH, Patricia (Peter) DeJourdan of Oviedo, FL, Thomas (Jodie) Smith of Rockford; nine grandchildren, one great grandchild, and brother-in-law James (Bernice) Bennetts of Laurium.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, January 25. Reverend Jeffrey Jagers officiated and burial was at Lakeview Cemetery in Calumet.

The family would like to thank Fosterian Manor Assisted Living, McLaren Homewood Village and Community Home Health and Hospice.

Arrangements by Sorenson Funeral Home, McEvers Chapel, Grayling.

George A. Granger, Jr. Dec. 2, 1933 - Jan. 26, 2003

George A. Granger, Jr., age 69 of Grayling died Sunday, January 26 at St. Mary's Hospital in Saginaw. Mr. Granger was born on December 2, 1933 in Grayling where he was raised.

On March 29, 1952, he married the former Shirley Jensen in Gaylord. He was stationed in Germany serving in the United States Army Corps. of Engineers.

Mr. Granger received his Bachelors of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Tri-State University in Angola, Indiana and his Masters degree from Michigan State University. He taught and then went into private professional engineering practice. In 1972, with his brother Jim, he established Granger Engineering in Cadillac and provided service throughout northern Michigan. Granger Engineering opened other offices including one in Gaylord, merging into what is now known as Wade Trim. He retired and continued with private consulting.

Mr. Granger was very active in his community and in his church, the Community of Christ where he was a bishop. One of his many accomplishments was designing the Cadillac Area Sports Association (CASA) Park.

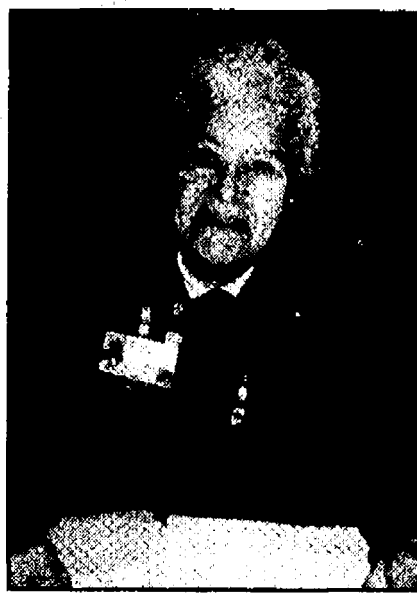
Mr. Granger is survived by his wife of over 50 years, Shirley; one son, George A. Granger III of Portage, three daughters, Vicky Dalton of Gaylord, Lorri (Thijs) Granger of the Netherlands, Christine (Mike) Mapes of Grawn; nine grandchildren, Amy and Christopher G. Granger, Christopher J., David and Jessica Dalton, Edric and Arjen Pletting, Aart and Ywen VerLoren; one great-granddaughter, Abigail Boyden; and one brother, James (Marilyn) Granger of Cheboygan.

Memorial services for Mr. Granger will be held on Friday January 31, at 3 p.m. from the Nelson Funeral Home.

Visitation with the family will begin on Friday January 31, at 12 noon.

Memorial contributions may be made to Community of Christ or to the Park of the Pines Endowment Fund, through the Nelson Funeral Home, 135 North Center, Gaylord, MI 49735.

Arrangements by Nelson Funeral Home, Gaylord.



Marguerite "Marge" Oliver

Sept. 29, 1911 - Jan. 27, 2003
Marguerite "Marge" Oliver, age 91, of Grayling, died at Mercy Hospital on January 27. She was born on September 29, 1911 in Bay City.

The former Marguerite C. Roth was married to Verne C. Oliver, who preceded her in death on January 3, 1978.

Mrs. Oliver was a homemaker who lived in Grayling most of her life. She was a member of the Mercy Hospital Auxiliary, and a faithful member at the Mt. Hope Lutheran Church in Grayling. She was active in "Quilting for Missions", and enjoyed working with and being with her church family.

Mrs. Oliver loved to fly fish and also ice fish, when her health permitted her to do so. She enjoyed living in her log cabin house on the Manistee River. She loved the company of her friends and neighbors, and a good "pizza."

Marge was a volunteer at Mercy Hospital for 40 years, doing many tasks. People will remember her for working the front desk at the hospital. She also volunteered for the American Red Cross for over 25 years, and delivered "Meals on Wheels." Marge helped many people by running them to their appointments and helping with errands.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday, January 30 at 11:00 a.m. at Mt. Hope Lutheran Church, Reverend Steven Thiel will officiate with burial at Elmwood Cemetery.

Visitation will be on Wednesday, January 29 from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m.

Arrangements by Sorenson Funeral Home, McEvers Chapel, Grayling.

John Ludeman January 21, 2003

John Ludeman, age 98, long time resident of Crawford County, and previous owner of the well known Camp Shoppenagon Downriver Hunting and Fishing Lodge passed away on January 21, in Denver, Colorado.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Wilma.

John is survived by one son, Frank (Jeanette) Ludeman of Castle Rock, CO; four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Arrangements by Olinger Chapel Hill Mortuary, 6601 South Colorado Blvd., Littleton, Colorado, 80121.

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Darius A. Divina, DO, is joining the staff of Mercy Hospital Grayling as a specialist in Orthopedic Surgery. A graduate of the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. Divina completed his residency in Orthopedic Surgery at Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital in Pontiac, MI.

Dr. Divina is joining Joseph R. Yacisen, DO, and the AuSable Sports Medicine and Joint Center. The main office for the practice is now under construction in Grayling.

In addition to Grayling office hours, both physicians will be seeing patients at the Mercy Family Care offices in Prudenville and Roscommon. Until the new Grayling office is ready, Grayling appointments will be offered at the Mercy Hospital Grayling Specialty Clinic.

For an appointment at any of the locations, call AuSable Sports Medicine and Joint Center, PC, at (989) 344-BONE.



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SENIOR CITIZEN NEWS

by Nova Anderson

Join us for a meal, either at noon or 5 pm weekdays except Friday, there is no evening meal. Please try to call for reservations at (989) 348-7123 or 1-888-355-4500, so that we know how many to plan for. The Center is located at 308 Lawndale, behind Burger King. Walk-ins are welcome.

January:

29 - Stuffed Peppers/Chopped Sirloin; Exercise & Line Dancing at 10 a.m.; Bible Study at 10:30 a.m.; Stag Cards at 12 noon; Craft Class at 1 p.m. and Medicine Shoppe Bingo at 5:30 p.m.

30 - Oven Pork/New England Dinner; Blood Pressure/Blood Sugar at 11 a.m. to 12 noon; Adult Ed Class at 1 p.m. and Uno Attack at 5:30 p.m.

31 - BBQ Chicken/No Dinner;

Pantry Bingo & 80 Cent Rummy at 1 p.m.

February:

1 - Pool League at 1 p.m.

2 - Sunday Brunch serving eggs, American fries, ham, toast and fruit bar (everyone welcome).

3 - Sauerkraut Kielbasa/Hot Turkey Sandwich; Stag Cards at 12 noon; Bridge Club at 1 p.m. and Hangman at 5:30 p.m.

4 - Swedish Meatballs/Pork Cutlets; Speaker Craig Denholm at 12 noon; Euchre Club at 1 p.m. and McDonald's Bingo at 5:30 p.m.

Thought for the week: Maybe the biggest problem with loneliness is that we walk around thinking we're the only ones suffering from it. Don't be lonely anymore, come to the center to meet new friends.

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Even if you stand in front of a full-length mirror, you still may not see yourself as other people see you. Your posture may look good, your body may seem to be in proper balance. But if there are any defects, you may need treatment by a doctor of chiropractic to correct them.

Your posture does a lot more than affect the way other people see you. It also affects the way you see yourself. Confidence, attitude, ability, and health can all be influenced by your posture. The way you stand, sit, and walk, and how you feel, are all interrelated.

Treatment may be needed to correct any defects in your posture. If they're caused by misalignments in your spinal column, the doctor of chiropractic will use gentle manipulation and other therapies to correct them. He can also give you good advice on how to maintain good posture so your body will stay in proper balance.

Keeping your spine in proper alignment and learning good posture techniques to help keep your body structurally balanced, can help you maintain good health.

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(336-4656)

Madsens named Citizens of the Year

Continued from Page 1A

The 2001 Athena Award recipient and Chamber Board Chair, Laurie Figley, stepped up to the microphone next and described the 2002 Athena Award recipient as someone who is "constantly providing support and encouragement to those around her."

She continued, "She is a strong leader, role model and mentor for professionals -- both men and women -- wherever she is. Without even knowing it, she has a talent for bringing out other people's strengths and talents, allowing them to be their best."

The Athena Award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated outstanding professional leadership and achievement, excelled in community service in a meaningful way, responded to adversity, and encourages the professional development of women.

The winner is chosen by previous Athena recipients from nominations submitted.

The award is underwritten by General Motors, and sponsored locally by Brad Scheer of Scheer Motors in Grayling, who donates the internationally prestigious Athena sculpture each year.

The 2002 Athena Award was presented to Lynn Porritt-McConnell who tearfully accepted the award. Afterward she said how honored she has been to present the Athena to other deserving people while serving as the Chamber's

Director. She said she was absolutely surprised and humbled to receive the award herself.

The grand finale of the evening came with the presentation of the 2002 Citizen of the Year award, selected by the Chamber's Board of Directors from nominations received.

Zigila returned to the podium and explained the Citizen of the Year Award is presented each year to those who have given unselfishly their time and energy to the community. The recipients are chosen by the Chamber Board from nominations received.

Zigila gave the colorful history of a couple, born and raised in Grayling, "who embody the spirit of the community... whose roots run deep in our history. Both are graduates of Grayling High School; she was top in her class, he was a football player. They were married in the early 60s and took a 7,000-mile tour (of the country) for their honeymoon."

"Upon returning to Grayling, they embarked on a business career spanning 30 years leading them down multiple paths including a lumberyard, minia-

ture golf course, trapping, snowmobiles and sporting goods.

"Since their 'retirement,' they have been making Grayling a better place to live. They work on beautification projects and signage, welcoming guests to our community. When the seasons change, they can be found helping change the decorations around town.

"They have taken their efforts to beautify Grayling to a new level by organizing an effort for the Michigan Department of Transportation to fund a significant part of a \$1.1 million streetscape beautification project for the south end of the I-75 Business Loop... and prepared a smaller proposal for M72 West."

Zigila then presented the 2002 Citizen of the Year award to Skip and Gail Madsen, who received a standing ovation.

Also to be noted as part of the Chamber's event, was a presentation of a plaque by Zigila and Figley to former Chamber Board member Bill Gannon, who has just fulfilled three consecutive two-year terms, from 1996 to 2002, and had reached term limits.

County property may be sold, redeveloped to increase revenue

Continued from Page 1A

The Commissioners hope to learn if the sale will bring enough funds to retire its current debt liability on the existing building, including the addition to the jail completed in 1996.

With the County in the middle of a budget crunch and funding dispute with the 46th Circuit Trial Court, Corlew said it would be to the County's advantage to consider different ways in which to increase revenue and the sale of the property may be one possible future resource.

Building Authority members recently informed the Board of its eligibility for state matching grant monies to help pay for many needed upgrades to the existing building, including the installation of an elevator to make the basement more accessible to the public.

The Authority then learned there is low-interest, long-term funding available from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation for rural development, including construction of new county offices and jail in a new location.

Corlew said, "The people in Lansing are very excited about helping Crawford County with the project we are considering. We've asked the Building Authority to hold up on any future upgrades until we decide the fate of the courthouse."

Gannon, who purchased the former Fred Bear Archery property on M-72 in Grayling more than a year ago, is interested in developing the county property and creating a sweeping commercial district including both properties, from the west end of Michigan Avenue north to M-72.

Gannon has been working closely with the local Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, and with Jan Kellogg and Paul Johnson of NEMCOG (Northeast Michigan Council of Governments), discussing the possibility of acquiring some Downtown Development funding for the huge proposed project.

In addition to increasing property tax revenue, Brownfield and rural development projects are designed to create new job opportunities and a boost to the local economy.

Gannon said his tentative plans include a four-screen movie theater, bowling alley, pub and restaurant, a senior assisted living complex, office space and perhaps some condominiums. He said he hopes to create a commercial district to complement the existing area that will cause travelers to stop and spend money in Grayling, rather than pass through it, headed to other destinations where their dollars are currently being spent.

The old Fred Bear Archery property will be redeveloped with the help of state Brownfield Redevelopment tax incentives. Before any new construction or redevelopment can take place, the property must be made free of any hazardous materials and waste left over from the manufacturing operation. Gannon said things are progressing slowly, but in the right order of the Brownfield Redevelopment plan.

For the courthouse property to be redeveloped, Gannon said a lot of money will be spent to demolish the existing structures.

Before the County Board would consider an agreement with Gannon, the exploratory committee will have to determine the cost of new construction, relocating county, court and jail administrative offices and jail; and provide an estimate of revenue expected from the proposed development.

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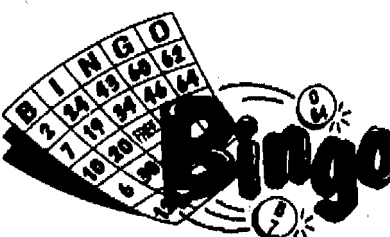
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Eagles Club 602 Huron Grayling

Thursday - 6:30 pm
American Legion Hall
Post 106 - Grayling

TUESDAY - 6:30 pm
Grayling Eagles Aerie #3465



JV b-ball cont'd 4B

Two setbacks

Pair of league losses drops Grayling into tie for 1st in NEMC

► Varsity squad falls to Braves of Tawas and Owls of Oscoda

Grayling High School's varsity boys basketball team lost two conference matches last week, dropping its season league record to 5-2 (6-4 overall). The Vikings are now tied with the Bobcats of Bay City John Glenn, also 5-2, for the conference lead.

On Tuesday, the Vikings lost a closely-contested game against the Braves of Tawas in Grayling 68-66.

Grayling trailed 18-14 after one quarter of play. The Vikings scored their 14 on a put-back and a jumper by Joe Lange, a triple and a drive by Adam Kaiser, a shot inside by Roy Czapek, a jumper by Roger Alvarez, and a free throw by Gibson Tobin.

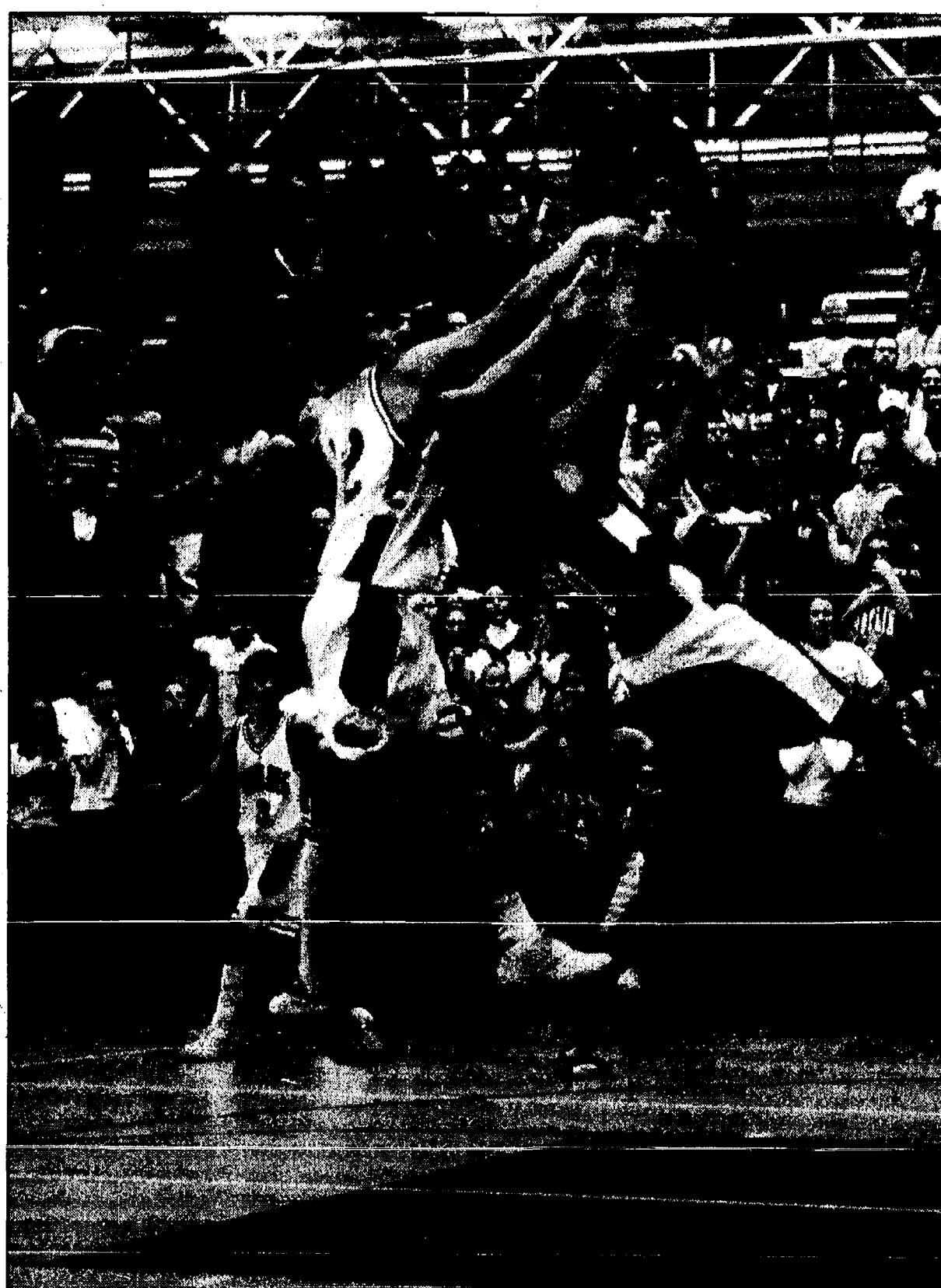
In a back-and-forth second quarter, the Braves edged Grayling 15-14. Grayling's 14 points were the result of a triple by Travis Helsel, a shot inside by Lange, a jumper by Helsel, a drive by Tobin, a put-back by Lange, and free throws by Lange and Alvarez.

The Vikings trailed 33-28 at halftime.

Grayling rallied for 20 points in the third period. Czapek had 10 of them with five baskets inside, including one on a tip-in.

Continued on Page 12B

See "VARSITY SQUAD..."



Photos by Caleb Casey

With 1.2 seconds left in the game, Tawas intercepts a Grayling in-bounds pass intended for Adam Kaiser. The play sealed a two-point win for Tawas.

Ten down, ten to go

JV team 10-0 at halfway point of season

► Grayling wins at Oscoda on Friday, defeats Tawas on Tuesday

The GHS junior varsity boys basketball team posted its 9th and 10th victories of the season last week with wins over Tawas and Oscoda.

The Vikings are 10-0 at the halfway point of their 20-game schedule.

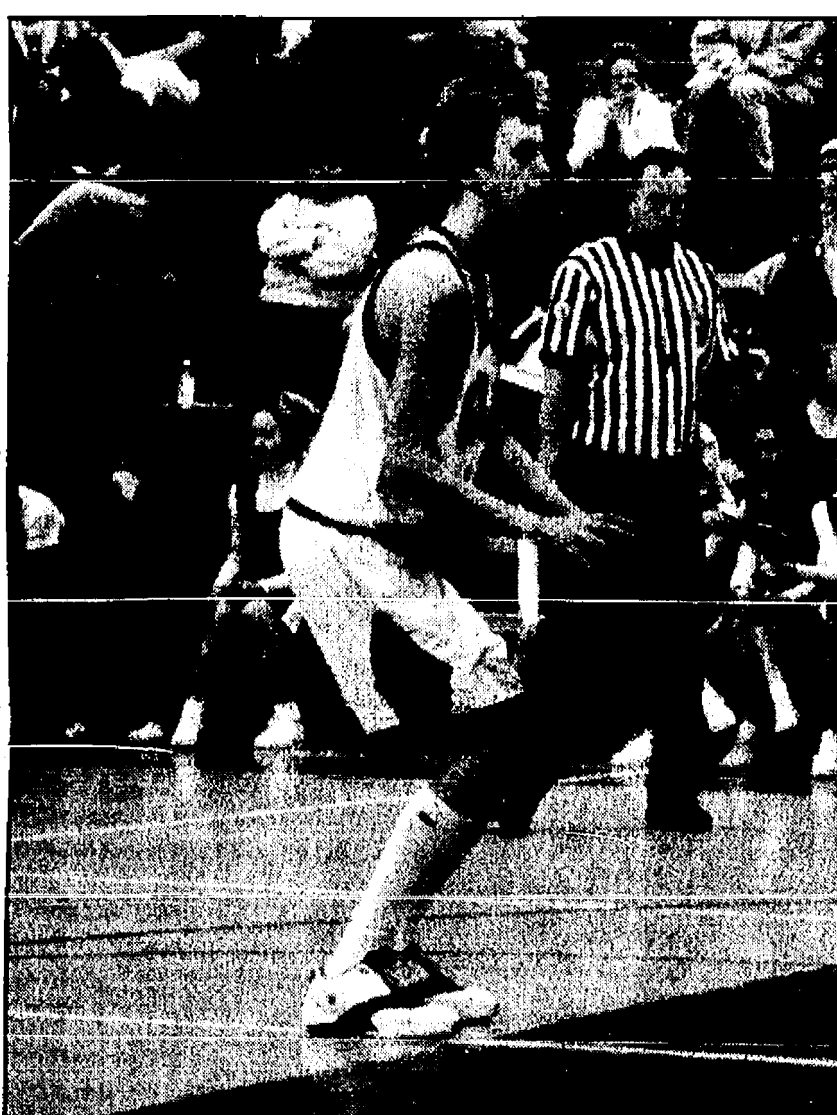
On Tuesday, GHS defeated

the Braves of Tawas 67-38 in Grayling.

The Vikings led 14-7 after one quarter of play on the strength of an 11-0 run that came in the middle of the period. Grayling's first quarter scoring effort included two lay-ups by Josh Hinkle, a jumper by Ryan Davis, a triple by Hinkle, a drive by Ryan Schmidt, a shot inside by Bobby Starks, and a free throw by Josh Millikin.

Continued on Page 4B

See "JV TEAM 10-0..."



Josh Hinkle shoots a free throw in the game against Tawas on Tuesday.

Freshman team loses in overtime

► Vikings fall to 7-1 with overtime loss to the Blue Devils of Gaylord

by Caleb Casey
Staff Writer

After a 7-0 start, Grayling High School's freshman boys basketball team recently lost for the first time this season. On Wednesday, the visiting Blue Devils of Gaylord handed the Vikings a 64-53 overtime loss at GHS.

"We really struggled against their zone defenses tonight," Coach Joe Mau said. "We had the opportunity to win the game at the end of regulation, but just didn't execute. The boys played hard and we will definitely learn from this loss and be ready for Boyne City on Tuesday."

After a tightly-contested first quarter, Gaylord led 13-11. Grayling scored its 11 points on a triple by Zac Baker, two field goals and two free throws by Eli VanNuck, and a jumper by Baker.

Grayling tied the game at 13-13 with a jumper by VanNuck. Gaylord scored a 6-0 run to lead 19-13. Grayling responded with a 7-0 run - baskets by Baker, VanNuck, and Reagan Schmidt.

Continued on Page 5B

See "FRESHMAN TEAM..."



Photo by Caleb Casey

Ryan Feldhauser passes off to a teammate in the Grayling vs. Gaylord freshman boys basketball game in Grayling on Wednesday.

Ski teams defeat Harrison, fall to Mt. Pleasant

► Girls team falls to 2nd in league, boys team tied for 1st in conference

When you enter the lodge at Snowsnake Mountain near Harrison, you see the fabled "snowsnake" mounted over the fireplace. The mythical snowsnake, a white fur-bearing snake that hides in the snow, causes skiers to fall when their skis become entangled with it. On Thursday, the Viking skiers found out about the snowsnake.

Grayling High School's girls and boys ski teams both defeated Harrison last week but lost to Mt. Pleasant as skiers lost skis and fell, as the "snake," as Mt. Pleasant refers to it, got them.

In the girls competition, final team scores were Grayling 31, Harrison 42 and Mt. Pleasant 32, Grayling 42.

The top skier for Grayling was Heather Vandecar with 10 points. She placed 1st in slalom and 3rd in giant slalom (GS) vs. Harrison and 1st and 5th vs. Mt. Pleasant.

Andria Alvarez had 16 team points with 3rd in both slalom races and a 4th and 6th in GS.

Freshman Jill Seager earned 27 team points, placing 5th and 7th in slalom and 6th and 9th in the giant slalom races. Mallory Olson had 30 points overall with two 2nd place finishes in GS. Olson disqualified for the first time this season in slalom as the fabled "snake" wrapped a ski around a gate and released her binding.

Kassie McClain had 34 points skiing at the end of the line-up under "must finish" conditions in slalom after two teammates disqualified. She placed 7th and 9th in slalom and 8th and 10th in GS.

Jessica Thomson had the "snake" bite a ski in slalom and rip it off for 13th in both slalom and 10th and 12th in GS.

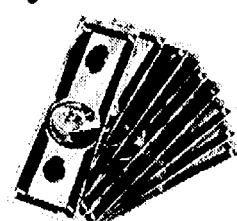
In the boys races, Grayling was led by Trevor Clough and Jim Jansen. Clough placed 1st and 2nd in the slaloms and Jansen was 1st in both GS races. Clough has won eight of nine slalom races this year as he placed 1st vs. Harrison and 2nd vs. Mt. Pleasant. He also finished 2nd and 4th in the GS races for a total of nine team points.

Jon Handy placed 2nd and 4th

Continued on Page 3B

See "SKI TEAMS..."

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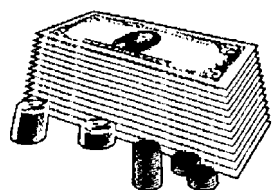
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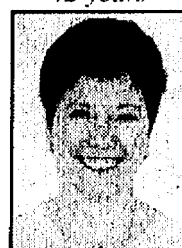
George Stancil
29 years



Ron Thomson
18 years



Kay Osowski
3 years



Linda Northrop
16 years



Dorinda Klee
13 years



Annette Metzger
13 years



Carrie O'Dell
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Local team wins Tip Up Town softball tournament



Photo courtesy of Jacki Barnes

Northwoods, a softball team consisting mostly of players from the Grayling area, won the Tip Up Town festival's annual softball tournament this past weekend. It was the third consecutive championship at the event for the Northwoods squad. The single-elimination TUT tournament was played on the ice of Houghton Lake during the first and last weekends of the festival, with the championship match wrapping up on Sunday, January 26 with a game in frigid, snowy conditions. This year's Northwoods line-up, pictured after Sunday's win, included: (front, left to right) Corey Derenzy, Steve Peterson, Darrell Metzger, Mark Burke, Caleb Casey; (back, left to right) Tom Barnes, Joel Mack, Bill Brandel, Dale Metzger, Dave Burr, D.J. Metzger. Not pictured: Jeff Mallision.

BOWLING LEAGUE

Recreation
Gale Enterprises . . . 18 - 02
Peterson's Saw Service . . . 12 - 08
Chicken Little Joint Pro. . . 10 - 10
Hawk Ridge Golf . . . 10 - 10
Woody Girls' . . . 10 - 10
Glens' Market . . . 07 - 13
Coldwell Bankers . . . 07 - 13
Mickey Perez CPA . . . 06 - 14
High Series: B. Wheeler, 545; M. Starks, 502; V. Balmes, 500; P. Petrosky, 480.
High Game: M. Starks, 192; B. Wheeler, 189; L. Dellar, 182; D. Lobsinger, 181.
Sunday Nite Mixed Doubles
Hart Pontiac-GMC . . . 31 - 11
D.X.R. Computers . . . 26 - 11
Wakeley's Auto Parts . . . 24 - 18
Little Tyke Day Care . . . 22 - 20
Sparks . . . 22 - 20
North Pure Ice . . . 17 - 25
Shady Acres . . . 16 - 26

Calkins Excavating . . . 10 - 32
High Series Men: D. Yanniello, 538; J. Helsel, 536; B. Nielson, 529.
High Game Men: D. Yanniello, 212; J. Helsel, 211; B. Nielson, 211.
High Series Women: S. Romain, 538; M. Miller, 507; T. Day, 482.
High Game Women: T. Day, 219; S. Romain, 209; D. Harris, 185.
Northwood
Hart Pontiac-GMC . . . 15 - 05
Beckett Contracting . . . 14 - 06
North MI Financial . . . 14 - 06
Lucky & Laura's . . . 12 - 08
Grayling Chiropractic . . . 08 - 12
Hometown Furniture . . . 08 - 12
Corky's Karaoke . . . 06 - 14
Calkins Excavating . . . 03 - 17
High Series: T. Day, 537; D. Harris, 523; B. Miller, 492.

High Game: A. Contreras, 196; M. Rock, 193; T. Day, 193.
Friday Mixed Doubles
American Legion . . . 20 - 08
Northern Cafe . . . 16 - 12
Moshier Auto Repair . . . 14 - 14
Double Trouble . . . 14 - 14
Charles Country Corner . . . 13 - 15
Ken's Tire & Auto . . . 13 - 15
Fick & Sons . . . 11 - 17
Piehl's Sawmill . . . 11 - 17
High Series Men: D. Wallace, 612; D. Canfield, 606; C. Hanson, 532.
High Game Men: D. Wallace, 236; D. Canfield, 212; C. Hanson, 203.
High Series Women: D. Medina, 612; S. Johnson, 481; S. Barber, 457.
High Game Women: D. Medina, 226; S. Barber, 184; S. Johnson, 168.

American Men's League
Moore's Automotive . . . 12 - 02
Warren Forest Products 9.5 - 4.5
Scheer Motors . . . 07 - 07
GADCO . . . 07 - 07
Forrest Brothers . . . 07 - 07
Helsel Forest Products . . . 6.5 - 7.5
McLeans Ace . . . 05 - 09
Fenton's Auto Service . . . 02 - 12
High Series: J. Helsel, 668; D. Henning, 665; L. Davis, 618.
High Game: J. Helsel, 267; L. Davis, 243; D. Henning, 234.
Seniors
Grayling Pharmacy . . . 52.5 - 23.5
Cornell Insurance . . . 36.5 - 39.5
Spike's Keg O' Nails . . . 36 - 40
Flowers By Josie . . . 36 - 40
Gray Rock . . . 36 - 40
Sylvester's Sports . . . 36 - 40
Gray Rock . . . 36 - 40
Buccilli's Pizza . . . 35 - 41
Hall's Snow Removal . . . 35 - 41
High Series Men: B. Hollis, 590; K. Louchart, 540; H. Ingram, 537.
High Game Men: B. Hollis, 222; H. Ingram, 189; O. Brantley, 187.
High Series Women: N. Glasslee, 483; W. Finkbeiner, 477; D. Hollis, 447.
High Game Women: W. Finkbeiner, 174; N. Glasslee, 173; D. Hollis, 171.

American Legion Lanes
Avalanche . . . 15 - 05
South Side River Rats . . . 15 - 05
Hawk Ridge Golf . . . 10.5 - 9.5
The Ice House . . . 10.5 - 9.5
Rochettes . . . 10 - 10
Chemical Bank . . . 08 - 12
Custom Interior . . . 06 - 14
McDonalds of Grayling . . . 05 - 15
High Series: C. Jones, 532; H. Stairs, 530; S. Johnson, 505; T. Parker, 504.
High Game: C. LaMotte, 203; H. Stairs, 196; C. Jones, 192; S. Johnson, 190.

POOL LEAGUE

Women's Standings
Swamp . . . 140
Sawmill II . . . 128
Gray Rock . . . 116
American Legion . . . 114
Plaza . . . 111
Frederic Inn . . . 109
Spike's . . . 101
Sawmill I . . . 93
5 Ball Runs: Beth (Plaza), Patsey (Sawmill II), Sandy (Sawmill II), Jeanne (Sawmill I), LaNette (Swamp), Pat (Spike's).
6 Ball Runs: Beth (Plaza), Cheri (Swamp).
7 Ball Runs: LaNette (Swamp).

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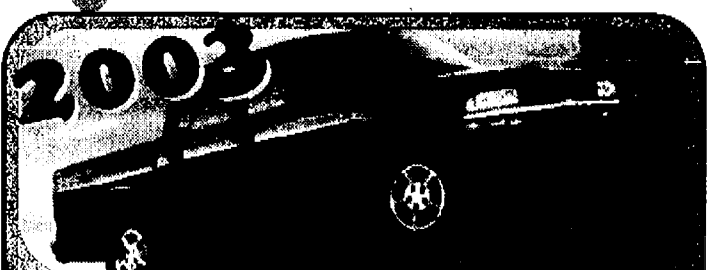


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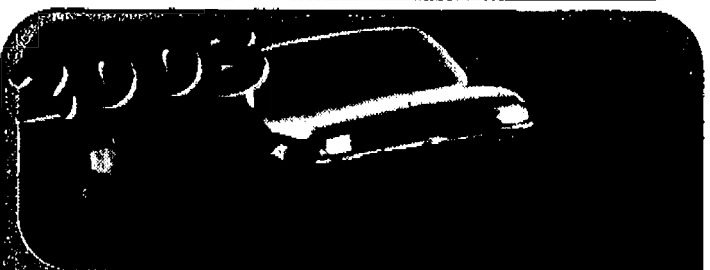


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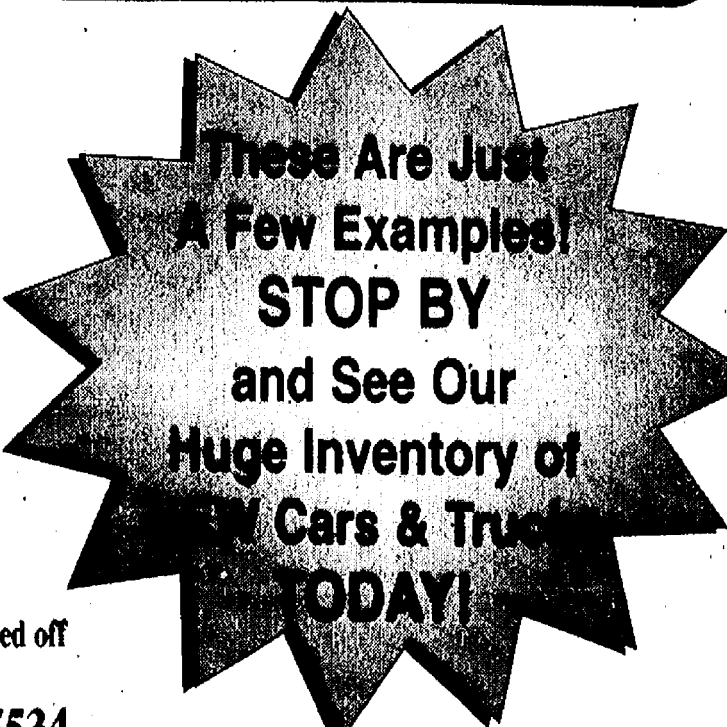


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The 2002-03 Grayling High School freshman girls volleyball team: (front, left to right) Chelsea Papendick, Michelle McGuire, Trisha Kinsey; (middle, left to right) Stacie Dent, Lacy Moore, Samantha Wakeley, Amanda Lutz, Jessica Morley; (back, left to right) Coach Amy Owen, Chelsea Wolcott, Andrea Southard, Krysta Golinick, Brittany Sloan, Tequila Reynolds.

Freshman volleyball team beats Tawas

► Vikings win best of three series by scores of 15-10, 15-11, 15-7

The Vikings of Grayling High School defeated the Tawas Braves 3-0 in a best of three freshman girls volleyball series last Monday at GHS. The Vikings won by scores of 15-10, 15-11, and 15-7.

"Excellent serving during all three games," Coach Amy Owen said. "Amanda Lutz scored seven points in the first game. They are learning to work as a team."

Serving statistics for Grayling included: Lutz, 12/13, 11 points;

Chelsea Wolcott, 5/5, 3 points; Chelsea Papendick, 4/5, 3 points; Michelle McGuire, 7/8, 6 points; Wakeley, 9/9, 7 points.

The team will host Pinconning on Wednesday, February 5 at 6:15 p.m.

Wrestlers split up to tackle two tournaments

► Vikings place well at tourneys in Gaylord and Sault Ste. Marie

The GHS wrestling team split up to compete in two separate tournaments this past Saturday: the 23-team Great Northern Michigan Tournament at Gaylord and a 13-team tourney at Sault Ste. Marie.

At Gaylord, Brandon Pratt (171) placed 2nd in his weight class. He is now 25-5 so far this season. Dusty Partello (152, 19-

3) placed 5th; Darryl Babbitt (160, 19-7) took 5th; Adam Malone (130, 19-12) finished 7th; and Joel Wilson (145, 17-9) placed 6th.

At Sault Ste. Marie, the Vikings posted four 1st place finishes, four 2nd places, and one 3rd. They were: Chuck Woodman (130), 1st; Joe Bancroft (140), 1st; Mike Gassman (152), 1st; Jeremy Handrich (160), 1st; Emily Harvey (103), 2nd; Doug Webb (140), 2nd; Don Starks (171), 2nd; Travis Brush (275), 2nd; Joe Ferrigan (189), 3rd.

"We divided the team and

competed in two tournaments this weekend," said Coach Don Ferguson. "Both tournaments were excellent. They were both great for our wrestlers. The competition was as good as it gets."

On Thursday, January 30 the Vikings wrestle at Tawas. On Saturday, February 1 the team

will compete in the Gladwin Invitational.

The Grayling High School wrestling team will host a meet (vs. Kalkaska and Traverse City) on Thursday, February 6 at 6 p.m. The meet will include "Parents Night" for the GHS wrestlers.

Ski teams defeat Harrison, fall to Mt. Pleasant

Continued from Page 1B

Jon Handy placed 2nd and 4th in slalom and 4th and 7th in GS, earning 17 team points. Pat McNally had 20 team points, placing 3rd and 8th in slalom and 3rd and 6th in GS.

Jansen had 28 team points. He placed 4th overall with two 1st place finishes in GS and then the "snake" got his ski in the start of the slalom races as it popped off in the starting gate.

Adam Gilbert and Eric Hunter each had 32 team points with Gilbert placing 7th and 10th in

slalom and 10th in both GS races. Hunter was 4th and 9th in slalom as the "snake" grabbed him in the second slalom run, causing him to fall. He finished 7th and 12th in the GS races.

The losses to Mt. Pleasant set up a shoot-out for the conference crown at the upcoming league meet, barring any other losses this week. Mt. Pleasant leads Grayling's girls by five points in the league standings, and Grayling's boys are now tied for first place in the conference with Mt. Pleasant.

Paul Olson Municipal Underwriters of Michigan

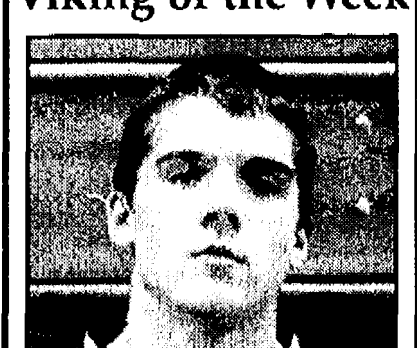
Vikings of the Week



HEATHER VANDECAR & PAT MCNALLY

Heather had two wins in slalom at Snowsnake on Thursday. She led the girls against both Harrison and Mt. Pleasant. Pat had two 3rds and a 6th & 8th in four races under "must finish" conditions last week.

Wendy's Viking of the Week



BRANDON PRATT

Brandon wrestled very well at the 23-team Great Northern Michigan Tournament at Gaylord on Saturday. He placed 2nd in the 171-pound weight class and now has a season record of 25-5.

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JV team 10-0 at halfway point

Continued from Page 1B

With a 20-11 second quarter, the Vikings extended their lead to 16 by halftime. Grayling scored its 20 points on jumpers by Schmidt and Davis, a three-point play by Jess Bobenmoyer, lay-ups by Schmidt and D.J. Metzger, a triple by Metzger, a jump shot by Hinkle, a lay-up by Schmidt, and a put-back by Russ Peters.

The Vikings put forth another strong quarter, outscoring Tawas 18-6 in the third period. The Braves scored their six on a pair of three-point shots. Grayling scored 18 on three baskets by Schmidt, a three-point play and a lay-up by Hinkle, a put-back by Peters, a jumper by Davis, and free throws by Millikin and Hinkle.

Grayling outscored Tawas 15-14 in the fourth quarter to seal the win.

The Vikings scored their 15 points on a lay-up by Bobenmoyer, shots inside by Millikin and Alex McNamara, a three-point play by McNamara, a

shot inside by Millikin, a put-back by Bobenmoyer, and free throws by Starks.

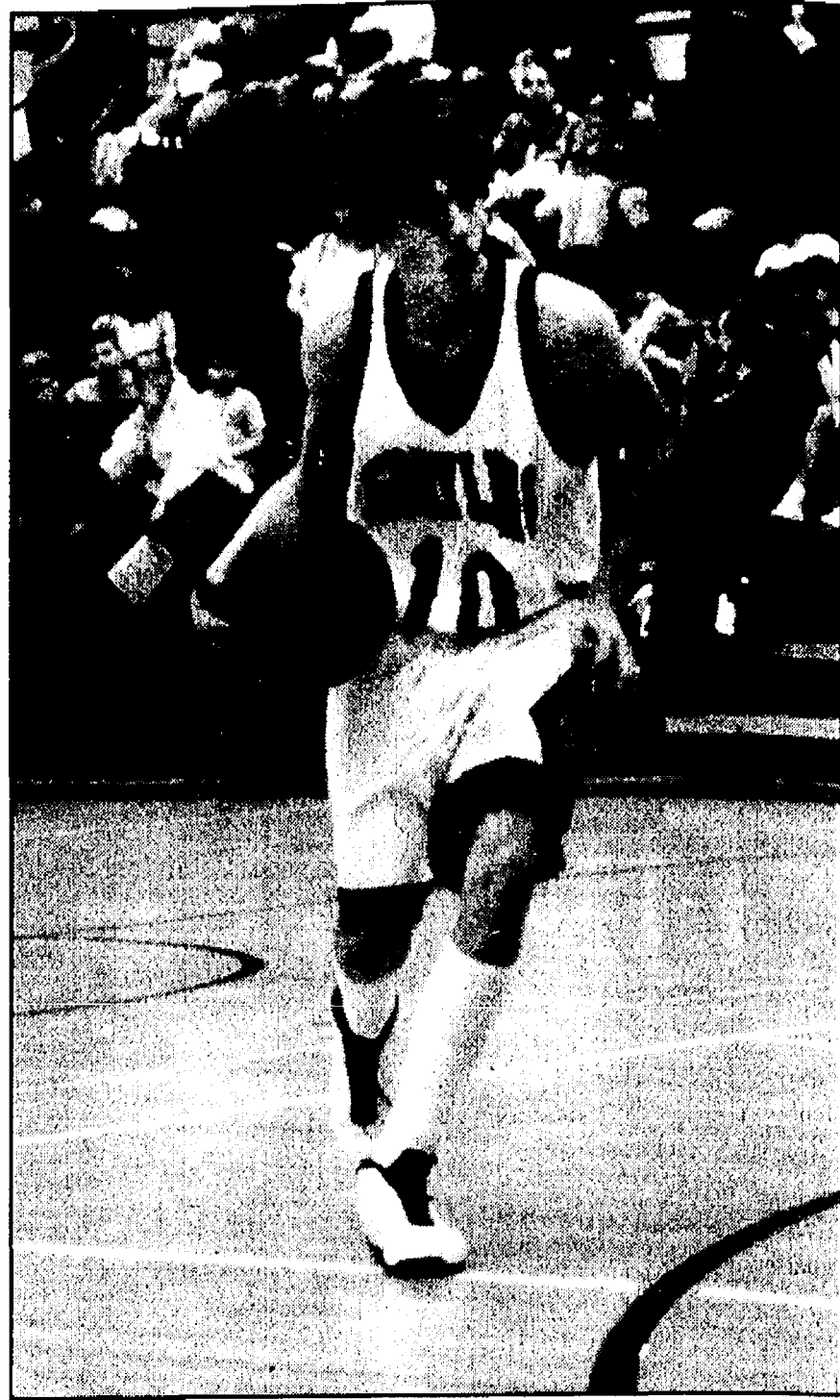
Hinkle and Schmidt led the scoring attack for Grayling with 15 and 14 points, respectively. Davis and Schmidt each had 6 steals on defense. Starks was the rebounding leader for GHS with 5 boards. Tyler Cragg had 4 assists.

On Friday, the Vikings won at Oscoda 49-43.

"It was a hard-fought game," Coach Butch Hayes said. "We were 20 of 36 from the free throw line - we need to do better on the road. Oscoda did a good job handling our pressure. We needed to step up our intensity and execute better."

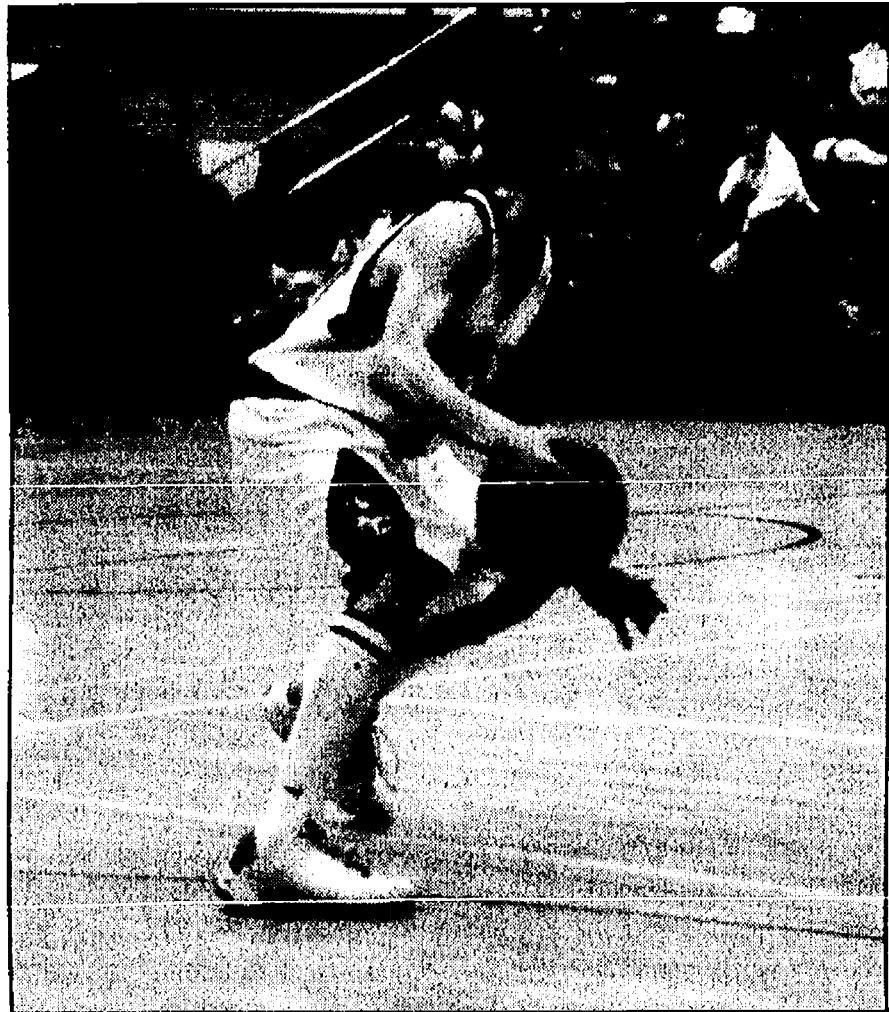
Hinkle scored 15 on Friday. Davis, Schmidt, Matt Swope, Starks, Bobenmoyer, Metzger, Cragg, and Peters also scored for GHS in the match.

The Vikings will play at Standish Sterling Central on Friday, January 31. On Tuesday, February 4 the team will host Roscommon.

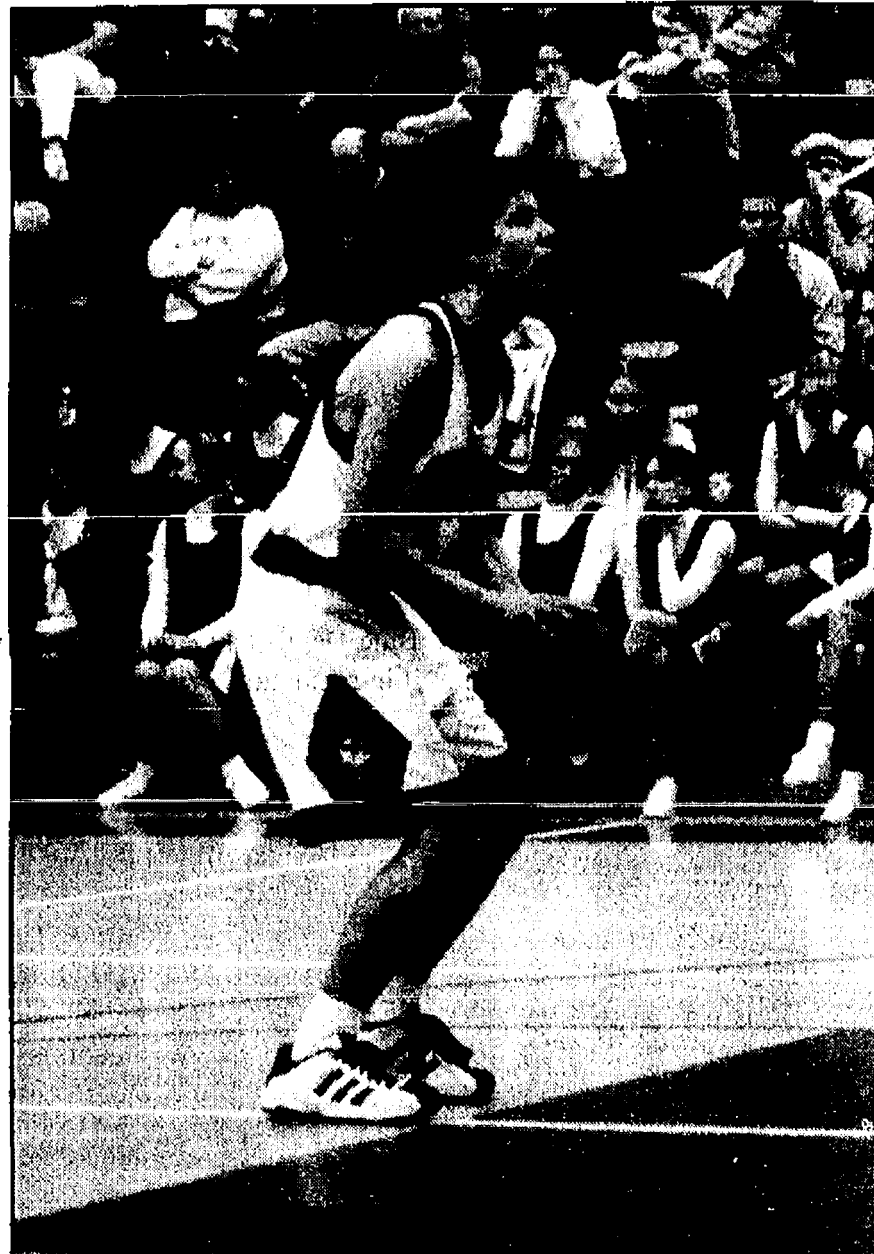


Photos by Caleb Casey

Alex McNamara handles the ball for the Vikings in the Tawas game on Tuesday night.



Ryan Schmidt controls the ball for Grayling in the JV match vs. Tawas last Tuesday.



Tyler Cragg sets up for a free throw shot in last week's JV basketball game at GHS.

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KIRTLAND BASKETBALL

Mens Team
ROSCOMMON - Jeremy Rau scored 12 points and hauled down a game-high 17 rebounds and Alvaidas Gedminas had 14 points and 11 rebounds to power Kirtland to an 86-75 victory Wednesday over Macomb.

Reuben Edwards had 22 points and Terrance Coker 15 for Kirtland, 4-2 in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association and 9-8 overall after its fourth win in five games.

Martell Summers had a game-high 23 points and William Harris had 16 for Macomb, 2-3 in the conference and 8-9 overall.

DETROIT - Anthony Butler had 24 points to lead Wayne County Community College to an 82-73 victory Saturday over Kirtland.

Alvaidas Gedminas had 26 points and 20 rebounds for Kirtland, which fell to 9-9 overall and 4-3 in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association. Reuben Edwards had 17 points and Jake Milarch added 10 for the Firebirds, who entered the game tied with Wayne for third in the MCCA's 10-team Eastern Conference. The top six teams qualify for the state tournament.

Aaron Penoy had 18 points for Wayne, which improved to 5-2

Womens Team
ROSCOMMON - Becca Miller had 26 points and Angela Krugler had 17 points and 10 rebounds to lead Kirtland to a 72-58 win Wednesday over Macomb.

Jeni Kemp contributed 10 points, nine rebounds and six assists to help the Lady Firebirds win their second straight game after four losses. They're 2-4 in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association and 7-11 overall.

Kirtland made 27 of 36 shots from the free-throw line and out-rebounded Macomb, 48-33.

Melissa Keefe scored 15 points, Kacie Girenti and Barbara Dudek had 11 each and Ashley Wagner had 10 for Macomb, 1-4 in the conference and 6-11 overall.

DETROIT - Chavon Haskins scored 32 points and hauled down 22 rebounds to power Wayne County Community College to a 79-51 win Saturday over Kirtland.

Jillian Schultz had 14 to lead Kirtland, which fell to 2-5 in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association and 7-12 overall.

Wayne led 42-17 at halftime en route to improving to 4-3 in the conference and 11-8 overall.

Baseball program sets clinic, meeting

► Clinic to be held February 15; Team meeting set for February 8

The Grayling High School baseball program, under the direction of new head coach Bob Gorski, will be offering a baseball clinic on Saturday, February 15.

The clinic, to be held at

Grayling Middle School, will be for players age 9-18. Coach Gorski and his staff will instruct participants on the fundamentals of hitting, pitching, infield, outfield, and catching.

Players will be broken up into two age groups: 9-12 will go from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and 13-18 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Participants must bring tennis shoes, gloves, and work-out clothes.

Also, players will have the

option to sign up for the second portion of the clinic to be held at a later date. At that time, players will be videotaped on their hitting. The fee for both dates is \$20, which includes a Grayling baseball cap and video.

Sign up for the clinic at Sylvester's or pick up applications at the elementary, middle, or high school offices.

Little League coaches can attend the clinics for a fee of

\$20. Coaches will receive a Grayling baseball cap and a coaching notebook on all phases of baseball.

Also, all GHS baseball players will have a team meeting on Saturday, February 8 at the Grayling Middle School cafeteria from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Coffee and doughnuts will be provided. The new 2003 baseball coaching staff for GHS will be introduced and expectations will be discussed.

Freshman team loses in overtime

Continued from Page 1B

and a free throw by Zach Dean - to take a one-point lead.

A put-back by Dean and a triple by Schmidt put the Vikings up 25-21. A three-point play and a free throw by Gaylord tied the game at 25-25. Grayling scored the last two baskets of the first half - a jumper by Baker and a triple by Schmidt - to lead 30-25 at halftime.

Gaylord caught up in the third quarter. The Blue Devils edged Grayling 18-13 in the period to leave the game tied at 43-43

going into the fourth quarter. The Vikings scored their 13 points on three drives, a free throw, and a three-point play by VanNuck and a triple by Ryan Feldhauser.

Gaylord scored first in the fourth with a shot inside. Grayling tied it with a lay-up by VanNuck. The Blue Devils scored to go back up by two. A jumper by Dean tied the contest at 47-47.

A lay-up by Schmidt on a pass from VanNuck gave Grayling a two-point edge at the 3:37 mark. Gaylord scored the next two baskets to leave the Vikings trailing by two. Two free throws by VanNuck tied the game at 51-51 with 1:42 left in the game.

Gaylord scored a jumper with 1:30 remaining to take a two-point edge.

Grayling missed the shot to answer, and Gaylord rebounded. The Blue Devils then turned the ball over with an over-and-back violation. The Vikings tied the game at 53-53 with a jump shot by VanNuck.

Gaylord turned the ball over, giving the Vikings possession with 30 seconds left in regulation. Grayling killed clock to play for the last shot. Gaylord forced a turnover before the Vikings got a shot off, and the Blue Devils had a chance to end it in regulation. With six seconds on the clock, Gaylord got the ball in and fired a shot. It didn't go in. The game headed into overtime.

Gaylord held Grayling scoreless in the overtime period and won by a final score of 64-53, handing the Vikings their first defeat of the season.

VanNuck was the leading scorer for Grayling with 24 points. On defense, he had 6 steals. Schmidt had 12 points, 4 steals, and 6 assists. Baker scored 9, grabbed 9 rebounds, and had 4 steals. Dean finished with 5 points and 4 boards.



Photos by Caleb Casey

Zeke Hayes takes a shot from inside the paint in last Wednesday's game against Gaylord.

On Tuesday, the Vikings defeated Tawas 57-54 in Grayling.

Schmidt had 14 points and 6 steals for GHS. VanNuck scored 13 and had 4 rebounds. Baker finished with 11 points and 9 rebounds. Zeke Hayes scored 6 and snagged 3 boards.

On Monday, February 3 the Vikings will host Oscoda at 6:15 p.m.



Eli VanNuck shoots from the free throw line in the Gaylord game on Wednesday night.

Surprise Your Valentine
with a Valentine greeting in the Avalanche.

Deadline is Monday, February 10th to appear in the February 13th issue.

AVALANCHE
102 Mich. Ave. • Grayling • 348 6811

Open: Monday through Friday 9 am to 5 pm

LEGAL ACTION

Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

MORTGAGE SALE - Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Donald L. Welser and Lydia Welser, husband and wife of Grayling, Michigan 49738 and Jayson S. Welser and Michelle Welser, husband and wife of 2601 Hidden Ridge Court, Grayling, Michigan 49738 to First National Bank of Gaylord, 501 W. Main Street, Gaylord, Michigan 49735, dated August 31, 2001 and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds, for the County of Crawford, and State of Michigan, on September 4, 2001, in Liber 0551 Pages 322 through 325 Crawford County Records, and on which there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, for principal, interest and late fees,

the sum of \$146,546.74.

As no suit or other legal proceedings have been filed to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage; Now, therefore, by virtue of the power of sale contained in the mortgage, and pursuant to the statutes of the State of Michigan, NOTICE is hereby given that on Wednesday, the 5th day of March, 2003 at 10:00 o'clock a.m. the mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at public auction to the highest bidder, at the main entrance to the County Building in the City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan of that premises described in the mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due, on the mortgage, with interest thereon at the contract rate and all legal charges and expenses, including the attorney fees allowed by law, and also any sums which may be paid by the mortgagee to protect its interest in the premises.

The premises are described as follows: Land situated in the City of Grayling, County of Crawford, State of Michigan, described as:

The North 50 feet of Lot 1, Block 2,

HADLEY'S THIRD ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE (NOW CITY) OF GRAYLING, thence West 180 feet, thence South 120 feet, thence East 180 feet, thence North 120 feet to the Point of Beginning. Being formerly lots 3, 4 and 5, Block 2, HADLEY'S THIRD ADDITION and also the South 33 feet of vacated Clare Street lying Northerly and adjacent thereto.

The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be thirty (30) days from the date of the sale. Dated: January 22, 2003
BODMAN, LONGLEY & DAHLING LLP
Amy J. Durant (P54777)
Debt Collector for First National Bank of Gaylord
229 Court Street
P.O. Box 405
Cheboygan, MI 49721
(231) 627-4351

-30-06-13-20-27

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MID-WINTER JAZZ FESTIVAL

February 1st ~ 9 AM - 10 PM



Roscommon High School



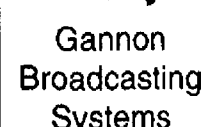
Roscommon Community Jazz Ensemble



Y100



101



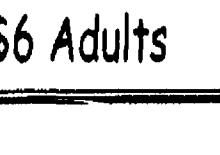
Gannett Broadcasting Systems



TNT Pizza Roscommon



Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs



Region 19 Roscommon Metropolitan Recreation Authority



FEATURING

The New Reformation Band

With the Opperman Brothers

Schedule

9:00	Roscommon Middle School
10:00	Roscommon Jazz Ensemble
11:00	Grayling High School
12:00	Sparta High School
1:00	St. Louis High School
2:00	Roscommon High School
7:00	Encore Performances and the New Reformation Band

\$6 Adults

Roscommon High School Auditorium

\$4 Students

LEGAL ACTION

Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information we obtain will be used for that purpose. Please contact our office at the number below if you are in active military duty.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Richard L. Hoag, married man and Angel R. Hoag, his wife (original mortgagors) to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., Mortgagee, dated January 25, 2002, and recorded on March 15, 2002 in Liber 0573 on Page 292 in Crawford County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Ten Thousand Two Hundred Seventy and 59/100 dollars (\$110,270.59), including interest at 7.000% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in Grayling, Michigan at 10:00 a.m., on March 5, 2003.

Said premises are situated in Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

Lot 28, Davenport's Pine Acres, as recorded in Liber 3, of Plats, Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be 6 month(s) from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 30, 2003
For information, please call:
Team X (248) 593-1302
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
30400 Telegraph Road, Suite 200
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200311289
Team X

-30-06-13-20

recorded on October 30, 2001 in Liber 558 on Page 20 in Crawford County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Seventy-Four Thousand Two Hundred Seventy-Six and 03/100 dollars (\$74,276.03), including interest at 8.875% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in Grayling, Michigan at 10:00 a.m., on March 5, 2003.

Said premises are situated in Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

Parcel 4-C: Being a part of the NW 1/4 section 33, T27N, R3W and described as: Commencing at the North 1/4 corner of Section 33; thence S00°58'00"W along the 1/4 line 727.45 feet to the Southerly right of way line of Jones Lake Road; thence along said right of way line (next 3 courses) S53°45'00"W 201.5 feet; thence S58°10'00"W 689.55 feet; thence S52°03'00"W 676.65 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence S36°47'22"E (recorded as S36°49'00"E) 272.07 feet; thence S52°03'00"W 400.71 feet; thence N36°38'44"W (recorded as N36°42'30"W) 272.08 feet; thence N52°03'00"E, along the Southerly right of way of Jones Lake Road 400.0 feet to the Place of Beginning. SUBJECT TO a 66 foot wide easement for ingress and egress and installation and maintenance of public utilities, 33 feet each side of the Southwesterly line of Parcel 4 as delineated on a survey recorded in Liber 122, Page 473; Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be 6 month(s) after the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 30, 2003
For information, please call:
Team X (248) 593-1302
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
30400 Telegraph Road, Suite 200
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200311491
Team X

-30-06-13-20

and recorded on September 3, 1998 in Liber 462 on Page 93 in Crawford County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Thirty-Four Thousand One Hundred Thirty-One and 20/100 dollars (\$34,131.20), including interest at 6.000% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in Grayling, Michigan at 10:00 a.m., on February 26, 2003.

Said premises are situated in City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

Being part of the Northwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 8, Town 26 North, Range 3 West, City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan described as: Commencing at the Southwest corner of Northwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section 8, Town 26 North, Range 3 West, thence South 89 degrees 59 minutes East 517 feet, thence North 1 Degree 33 minutes East, 656 feet to the Point of Beginning, thence continuing North 1 degree, 33 minutes East, 281.3 feet to the Southeasterly bank of the AuSable River; thence South 64 degrees 28 minutes West along river, 184.85 feet; thence South 24 degrees 03 minutes West along river, 220.3 feet; thence South 8 degrees 50 minutes East along river, 87.0 feet; thence South 89 degrees, 59 minutes East, 133.2 feet; thence North 1 degree, 33 minutes East, 149.0 feet; thence South 89 degrees 55 minutes East, 100.0 feet to the Point of Beginning. The above description of land is the combination of Parcels A and E of Survey recorded in Liber 134, page 79 and of Parcel A of Survey recorded in Liber 153, page 458, Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be 6 month(s) from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 23, 2003
For information, please call:
Team J (248) 593-1311
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
30400 Telegraph Road, Suite 200
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200018865
Team J

-23-30-06-13

111, such Mortgage being given to secure two Promissory Notes payable to the Government; and by reason of such default the Mortgagee elects to declare the entire unpaid amount of such Mortgage due and payable forthwith, on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date of this notice, for principal and interest, the sum of Sixty Six Thousand Five Hundred Four and 87/100 (\$66,504.87) Dollars, and no proceedings having been instituted at law or equity to recover the debt now remaining secured by said Mortgage, or any part thereof, whereby the power of sale contained in said Mortgage has become operative;

Now, Therefore, Notice is Hereby Given that by virtue of the power of sale contained in said Mortgage and in pursuance of the statute of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, the said Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the premises therein described or so much thereof as may be necessary, at public auction, to the highest bidder, at the south door of the County Building at 200 West Michigan Avenue in the City of Grayling, County of Crawford, Michigan, that being the place of holding the Circuit Court in and for said County on the 12th day of February, 2003 at 10:00 a.m., local time, and said premises will be sold to pay the amount due as aforesaid on the Mortgage together with 11.875% percent interest, legal costs, attorneys' fees and also any taxes and insurance that said Mortgagee does pay on or prior to the date of said sale; which said premises described in said Mortgage are situated in the County of Crawford and State of Michigan, and are described as:

Lots 12 and 13, Oak Acres Park, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 49, Crawford County Records. SUBJECT to building and use restrictions as contained in instrument recorded at Liber 49, Page 453, Crawford County Records.

During the six (6) months immediately following the sale, the property may be redeemed unless the property is abandoned, in which case the redemption shall be thirty (30) days from the date of sale.

For further information with regard to this foreclosure, contact USDA - Rural Development, 1501 Cass Street, Suite A, Traverse City, Michigan, 49684, telephone (231) 941-0951.

Dated: January 15, 2003
Michael I. Conlon (P43954)
Running, Wise & Ford P.L.C.
326 E. State Street, P.O. Box 686
Traverse City, MI 49685-0686
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
acting through the Farmers Home Administration, (now known as Rural Development), United States Dept. of Agriculture, Mortgagee

-16-23-30-06

Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information we obtain will be used for that purpose. Please contact our office at the number below if you are in active military duty.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Kent E. Bowman and Carmela C. Bowman, husband and wife (original mortgagors) to Charter One Bank, F.S.B., Mortgagee, dated August 29, 1996, and recorded on September 3, 1996 in Liber 417 on Page 213 in Crawford County Records, Michigan, on

which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Five Thousand Seven Hundred Eighteen and 82/100 dollars (\$105,718.82), including interest at 8.750% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in Grayling, Michigan at 10:00 a.m., on February 19, 2003.

Said premises are situated in Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

a part of the Southeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 8, Town 26 North, Range 3 West, commencing at the Northwest corner of same and running thence North 89 degrees 40 minutes East on the North line thereof, 424.5 feet; thence South 0 degrees 35 minutes West 137.2 feet, to the center of roadway; thence South 52 degrees 47 minutes East along same, 174 feet to the P.O.B.; thence South 82 degrees 47 minutes East along center of roadway, 60 feet; thence South 33 degrees 04 minutes East 567.5 feet, to the Northerly bank of the AuSable River; thence South 59 degrees 32 minutes West along said bank, 200 feet; thence North 18 degrees 36 minutes West 616.8 feet, to P.O.B.; said tract includes all land to the waters edge, Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be 6 month(s) from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 16, 2003
For information, please call:
Team W (248) 593-1312
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
30400 Telegraph Road, Suite 200
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200310462
Team W

-16-23-30-06

Notice of Public Comment Period Crawford County Housing Preservation Grant 2003

The Crawford County Board of Commissioners and the Crawford County Housing Program are seeking public comment for the submission of a 2003 Housing Preservation Grant Program (HPG). Written comments will be accepted until 4:30 p.m., February 14, 2003 and should be mailed to: Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency, Inc. 2375 Gordon Road, Alpena, MI 49707. A statement of activities proposed within the grant will be available to the public at the Crawford County Housing Office, 203 Huron Street, Grayling, MI 49738.

-30

SYNOPSIS GRAYLING TOWNSHIP BOARD Regular Meeting January 8, 2003

Members Present: Tom Hall, Cynthia Timmons, Ruth O'Mara, Monica Ashton, Terry Wright.

Members Absent: None.
Others Present: Sheriff Kirk Wakefield, Deputy Jason Alexander, Curt Marshall, Fred Atchison.

Supervisor Wright called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by O'Mara, second by Timmons, to approve minutes of December 11, 2002, as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

Treasurer's report for December was distributed for comments and placed on file.

No Correspondence.

1. Citizens Who Wish To Speak: Fred Atchison, Eagle Point resident, distributed photos and voiced concern regarding traffic and parked vehicles blocking driveways and mail boxes towards the end of Eagle Point Road where it accesses Lake Margrethe. This is an increasing winter problem when ice fishermen are trying to access the east bay.

Sheriff Wakefield and Supervisor Wright will submit article to Avalanche requesting people be conscientious of where they are parking. The matter will also be placed on the agenda of a public hearing tentatively scheduled for May 2003 regarding several matters at Lake Margrethe.

2. Motion by Timmons, second by Hall, to accept the resignation of Pat Merrill from the Grayling Township Planning Commission due to his relocation in the Upper Peninsula. All ayes, motion carried.

3. Motion by Timmons, second by Hall, to confirm the recommendation of Supervisor Wright to appoint Geraldine Hood to the Grayling Township Planning

Commission. All ayes, motion carried.

4. Sheriff Wakefield updated the board on various activities of his Department including ongoing "blight patrols". January patrols scheduled for January 13 and January 23, 2003.

5. Grayling City and Township Fire Department Year End Report for 2002 was distributed and placed on file.

6. Motion by O'Mara, second by Timmons, to approve payment of claims on vouchers 900 through 934. Guardian Dental \$629.79, Board Fees \$70.00, and Liquor Inspections \$90.00 for a grand total of \$104,685.82. All ayes, motion carried.

7. Motion by Ashton, carried, to adjourn. All ayes, (8:00 p.m.)
Monica S. Ashton, C.M.C.
Grayling Township Clerk

SYNOPSIS BEAVER CREEK TOWNSHIP BOARD Regular Meeting January 13, 2003

The regular meeting of the Beaver Creek Township Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members present: Riley, Mobarak, Little and Hartman. Absent: Balmes. There were 8 guests present.

Motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Seconded and carried.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Seconded and carried.

Reports given by Supervisor, and the Fire Chief regarding the Fire Department and Township Planning.

There were 7 pieces of correspondence.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Mobarak and seconded by Little to accept the Resolution for Computerized Tax Roll. Ayes: 4, nays: 0. Motion carried.

2. Motion by Mobarak and supported by Hartman to accept the Road Project Participation Policy as presented. Ayes: 4, nays: 0. Motion carried.

3. Motion by Mobarak and seconded by Little to accept the Poverty Guidelines as presented. Ayes: 4, nays: 0. Motion carried.

4. Motion by Riley and seconded to reappoint the current Board of Review members: Harland, Parkinson and Summers, for another two years. Ayes: 4, nays: 0. Motion carried.

5. Motion to pay AP bills, seconded and motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Sharon K. Hartman
Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: James A. Kuenzel Self-Trusteed Revocable Trust SS#362-40-1216 (Social Security Number of Decedent)

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS Your interest in the estate may be barred or affected by the following: The decedent, James A. Kuenzel, whose last known address was 6301 Clara's Way, Grayling, Michigan, 49738, died on December 28, 2002.

The decedent was the Grantor of the James A. Kuenzel Self-Trusteed Revocable Trust ("Trust").

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Trust will be forever barred unless presented to the current acting Co-Trustees (whose names and addresses appear below) of the Trust within four (4) months of the date of publication of this notice.

The current acting Successor Co-trustees are: William M. Fury, 308 W. Main, P.O. Box 1000, Gaylord, MI, 49734, and Darby A. Kuenzel, 15350 157th Ave., Big Rapids, MI 49307.

Notice is further given that the Trust will be thereafter assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

Dated: January 23, 2003

Attorney for Successor Co-Trustees:

William M. Fury P13767

Bensinger, Cotant & Menkes, P.C.

308 West Main Street

P.O. Box 1000


Gaylord, MI 49734

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(989) 732-4922 - fax

www.bcma.net

-30



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USDA-FOREST SERVICE HURON-MANISTEE NATIONAL FORESTS FOREST PLAN REVISION PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Huron-Manistee National Forests (Forest) will hold a series of Forest Plan Revision public meetings in February 2003. The purpose of these meetings is to continue public orientation on various elements of the Forest Plan Revision process, including Landtype Associations, Recreation Opportunity Spectrums, Species Viability Assessments, and Social-economic Assessments. The focus of these meetings will be to share the results of the November Listening Sessions. There will also be discussion on the preliminary direction the Huron-Manistee National Forests is heading toward in revising its Forest Plan. The public meetings will be held from 6-10 pm at the following locations:

February 18 - Best Western Conference Center on M-55 West, Cadillac, MI.

February 19 - Chittenden Environmental Center on Hwy. 55, Wellston, MI

February 19 - Pleasant Plains Township Hall, Baldwin, MI

February 20 - Mio Community Center, Mio, MI

February 20 - Oscoda Library, Oscoda, MI

February 25 - Ladies Literary Club, 61 Sheldon Boulevard, Grand Rapids, MI

February 26 - Michigan State University, Natural Resources Building, Room 221, East Lansing, MI

February 27 - University of Michigan Dearborn Campus, School of Management Lecture Hall B, Dearborn, MI

Information on the Forest Plan Revision processes for the Hiawatha and Ottawa National Forests will also be made available at these meetings.

Complete information concerning these meetings and Forest Plan revision is available to the public from Dianne Roycraft at the USDA-Forest Service, Huron-Manistee National Forests, 1755 S. Mitchell Street, Cadillac, MI 49601 (phone (231) 775-2421, TTY (231) 775-3183). Requests for accommodations for special needs may be submitted to Dianne. Information will also be available in late January on the Huron-Manistee National Forests' website at www.fs.fed.us/r9/hmnl.

PUBLIC NOTICE

**CRAWFORD COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
PROPOSED STATE AND FEDERAL SECTION 5311
(FORMER SECTION 18) APPLICATION FOR OPERATING
AND CAPITAL ASSISTANCE**

All citizens are advised that the Crawford County Transportation Authority (CCTA) has prepared an application for State of Michigan financial assistance for fiscal year 2004, as required under Act 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, as amended and for federal Section 5311 (former Section 18) assistance as required under the Federal Transit Act, as amended.

The CCTA is requesting Five Hundred Twenty-Nine Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-Four Dollars (\$529,424) in state operating assistance for general public transit services; One Hundred Thirty-Two Thousand Three Hundred Fifty-Six Dollars (\$132,356) for Federal Section 5311 operating assistance; and approximately Nine Hundred Eighty-Three Thousand Dollars (\$983,000) in capital support for replacement vehicles, facility improvements, and other equipment.

The proposed application is stored on an electronic file at the CCTA administrative offices and may be reviewed by the public subsequent to January 15, 2003. An appointment can be scheduled to review the application by telephoning 348-8215.

Written comments regarding the application and/or written requests for a public hearing to review the application must be received by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, February 28, 2003. If a hearing is requested, notice of the scheduled date, time, and location will be provided at least 10 days in advance.

Submittals should be mailed to:

Crawford County Transportation Authority
4276 West North Down River Road
Grayling, Michigan 49738

"The Crawford County Transportation Authority is an EOE/AA Organization"
"Proposals from Certified DBE/WBE Vendors are Requested"

PUBLIC NOTICE

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FACTS AND FEATURES

A LOOK AT OUR PAST FROM THE PAGES OF THE AVALANCHE

23 Years Ago

January 31, 1980

A motion to donate \$4000 to the Crawford County Ambulance Fund Drive in increments of \$2000 each over the next two years was unanimously approved by the City Council. This pushes the drive campaign to 93 percent of the total needed.

An old fashioned Grayling Winter Carnival sleigh ride from the Railroad Depot to the Hanson Hills Ski Area and return will be done on a one time only feature during the annual event.

The skating rink at Hanson Hills is another first in modern times and will be formally opened for the public use during the Winter Carnival on Saturday. The Grayling Booster Club will furnish the lighting for the rink so that it will be open during the same hours as night skiing.

For the first time in many years, the young ladies entered in the Miss Grayling Winter Sports Queen competition will be spotlighted in a pageant separate from other Winter Carnival activities. The 15 entrants include Corena Hall, Lisa Eshenroder, Suzy Nicholas, Toni Trudgeon, Jeanne Lange, Barbara

Hoffman, Kim Wheeler, Tami Goss, Starrla Baade, Cindy Patnode, Miranda Canfield, Susan Weeber, Cheryl Carlson, Michelle Bancroft and Nancy Bitner.

Everything is in readiness for this year's White Pine Stampede on February 2nd. The event drew 300 cross country ski racers last year and is Michigan's longest point-to-point 50 km. cross country ski event.

The Grayling ski teams swept all four races from Cheboygan on Wednesday. Lead by a pair of first place victories by Jean Wieland and John Huss, the girls won the slalom race and the giant slalom race. The boys also won the races by scores 12-3- and 10-28. Other participants in the meet were Stephanie Fick, Sheri Wieland, Toni Trudgeon, Mika Fijolek, Shelly Kammer and Terri Fijolek.

Jann Treston, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. "Bud" Treston of Okemos and Grayling, has been chosen to attend the Winter Olympics in Lake Placid, New York, as a member of the National Ski Patrol. She is Michigan's only representative on the patrol and one of the youngest.

Burt Partello and Jerry Lucksted brought home first

place individual medals and Grayling fourth place finish in the Algonac Invitational Wrestling Tournament Saturday.

Citizens of Crawford County turned out to support the community projects of the Grayling Rotary Club as over 600 people filled the tables at the popular fish fry. The diners consumed 350 pounds of fish, 300 pounds of french fries, 136 pounds of salad, 60 dozen rolls and over 50 gallons of coffee in the four hour eat-a-thon.

46 Years Ago

January 31, 1957

Fire of a still undetermined nature broke out in Dawson's store on Friday morning. The building, stock and fixtures were completely wiped out in the most spectacular blaze to hit Grayling in two years.

Grayling Viking Bob Strong has placed sixth in the scoring in the first half of the basketball season's scoring in the Northern Class C Conference play.

Eight new M-47 heavy tanks have been delivered at Camp Grayling for use in Training Guard members next summer. The tanks are equipped with 90 millimeter guns.

Five separate groups, totaling nearly 700 people added to the influx of other winter sports fans to give the Grayling Winter Sports Park its biggest weekend thus far this season.

The Frederic Eagles tri-

umphed for their twelfth straight game and their seventh consecutive conference victory as they downed Rapid City Friday night.

Showing this week is the movie "Sharkfighters" in Cinemascope-Technicolor, starring Victor Mature.

69 Years Ago

February 1, 1934

Anticipation for the birthday ball for the President budded into realization Tuesday evening when a very fair sized crowd gathered at the school gymnasium to participate with 6000 other crowds scattered through the United States in the nation-wide celebration of the fifty-second birthday of President Roosevelt.

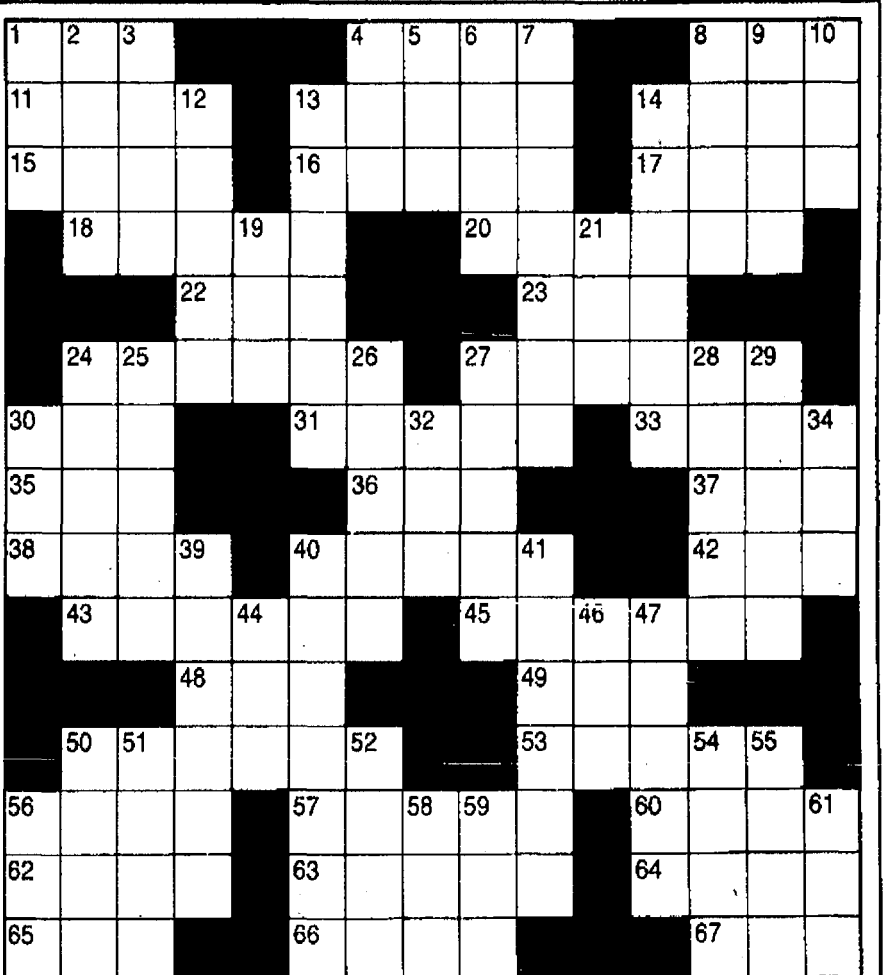
The farmers of Maple Forest are beginning to get up their ice. It is reported to be in good condition, being fourteen inches thick.

92 Years Ago

February 2, 1911

Our band has been participating very diligently this winter for their coming concert, on Washington's Birthday, February 22nd, which will surpass any one they have ever produced here. Ex-Sheriff Amidon who has been visiting "the old folks at home" returned Monday, somewhat rested but not yet entirely recovered from his severe illness.

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Actress Scala
4. French naturalist
8. Presidential nickname
11. Curvature
13. Hopeless case
14. Partial: prefix
15. Traditional knowledge
16. Bay horses
17. Cigar-hawking Adams
18. Impudence
20. Looked after
22. Tool's mate
23. Egg drink
24. Map parts
27. Colliers
30. Frost, as a cake
31. Part of SST
33. Appear to be
35. Downturn
36. Rockefeller riches source
37. Farm male
38. Med. subj.
40. Heavens supporter
42. Land measure
43. Shining
45. Hosiery
48. College yell
49. Capone's group, informally

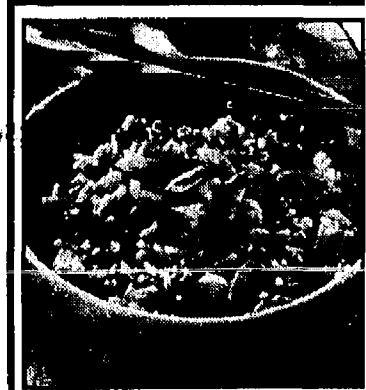
DOWN

1. Woman from Kalamazoo
2. ___ Man (Ayres film)
3. Measure for Old MacDonald
4. San Diego attraction
5. Stop ___ dime (2 wds.)
6. Gave temporarily
7. Poison popular with mystery writers
8. Yield by treaty
9. Included with
10. After the truth
12. Groups of livestock
13. Hails
14. Bushy fences

19. Compete
21. Pierree's refusal
24. Cake feature
25. King Birendra's land
26. Like a chimney, come spring
27. La Scala's city
28. Showed again
29. Where to buy a Kenmore
30. Crete peak
32. Goose egg
34. Mrs., in Metz
39. Very hot
40. Mortified
41. Periodic table feature
44. Saint, in Recife
46. Singer Rawls
47. Wind instruments
50. Cough fraught with meaning
51. Forbids
52. Boat with flaring sides
54. Workout spot
55. Polluted air
56. It's past "due"
58. Refrain bit
59. Like a ___ of bricks
61. ___ loss for words (2 wds.)

ANSWERS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

RECIPE OF THE WEEK



Savory Skillet Broccoli

- 1 Tbsp. Bertolli Olive Oil
- 6 cups fresh broccoli florets or 1 lb. green beans, trimmed
- 1-1/2 cups water
- 1 env. Lipton Recipe Secrets Onion Soup Mix
1. In 12-inch skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat and cook broccoli, stirring occasionally, 2 minutes.
2. Stir in soup mix blended with water; bring to a boil.
3. Reduce heat to medium-low and simmer covered, 6 minutes or until broccoli is tender.

Easy Fried Rice

- 1/4 cup Bertolli Olive Oil
- 4 cups cooked rice

- 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 1 env. Lipton Recipe Secrets Onion Soup Mix
- 1/2 cup water
- 1 Tbsp. soy sauce
- 1 cup frozen peas and carrots, partially thawed
- 2 eggs, slightly beaten
1. In 12-inch nonstick skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat and cook rice and garlic, stirring constantly, 2 minutes or until rice is heated through.
2. Stir in soup mix blended with water and soy sauce and cook 1 minute. Stir in peas and carrots and cook 2 minutes or until heated through.
3. Make a well in center of rice and quickly stir in eggs until set. Stir eggs into rice and cook until done.

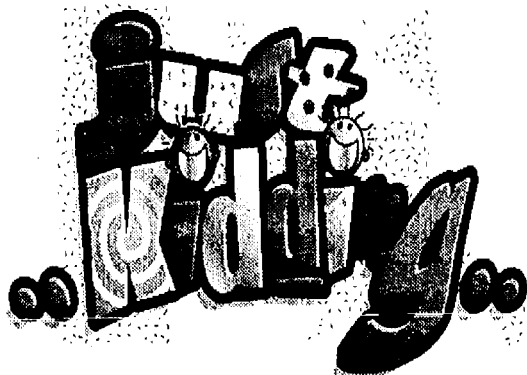
SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

BLUEBIRD FINCH PARAKEET
BUZZARD MACAW PARROT
CARDINAL MALLARD PELICAN
EMU OWL PIGEON

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

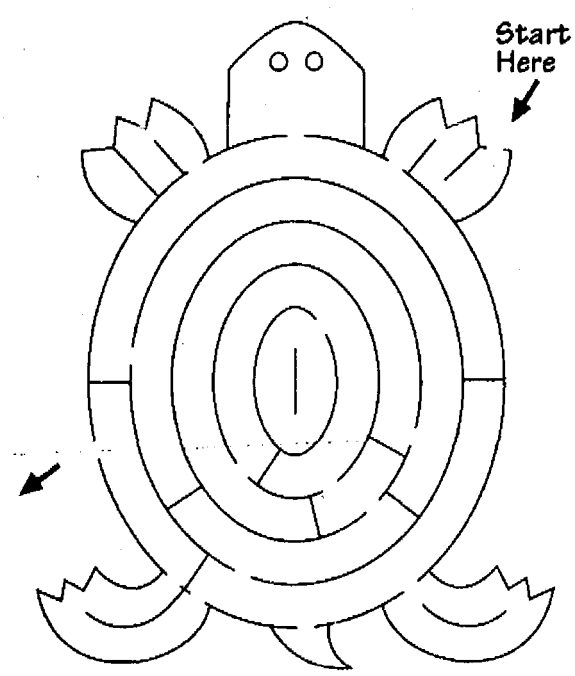
POUYIREMUE
AWCBUZZARD
STALDFNLGH
LORUKJALOF
MRDEMACAWI
NRIBBVIRLN
EANIQLDCC
WPARAKEETH
RTL DYUPIOL
ABNMPIGEON



DID YOU KNOW

According to the Irish tradition, a cricket heard chirping on Christmas Eve is called the king of all luck.

MAZE



Adopt a Pet



Slick is a Shar-Pei mix male. He is about 1 1/2 years old. Friendly with people, but will fight with other male dogs. Please call 348-4117 for more information on opening your home to a homeless animal. Or, e-mail: animal_director@yahoo.com.

The response to our latest fund-raisers has been wonderful: Dog-Opoly, Cat-Opoly, Wild Animal-Opoly and Ocean-Opoly are big hits! We have only one of the Ocean-Opoly game, but a few of the others are still available. These games are fun while being educational and make great gifts, or to just chase away cabin fever. Cost is \$25 each and all proceeds go to help the animals in our care. Games are available for purchase at J.Dap Co. and at the Avalanche office. "Creature Comforts Cookbook" is still available for a donation of \$15. Stop by the Shelter, the Grayling Hospital for Animals, the Avalanche, Riverland Gear, The Medicine Shoppe, or Stevens Family Circle and get your copy. The support of this community has allowed for many upgrades at the shelter in 2002. Stay tuned for details!

The Animal Shelter of Crawford County is located at:
508 1/2 Huron Street (M-72 East) in Grayling
Between the Road Commission and the Eagles Hall

Hours: Mon. - Sat. 9 am - 1 pm; Sun. and Holidays 8 am - 11 am
After hour appointments available. Call (989) 348-4117

WEATHER

Courtesy of the City of Grayling

Last Week

Date	H	L	Snow
1/22	10	-7	2
1/23	7	-13	trace
1/24	15	5	25
1/25	18	12	1
1/26	19	5	4.5
1/27	8	-23	2
1/28	12	-7	1

Extended Forecast

(Courtesy of the Weather.com)

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
High 23 Low 3	High 26 Low 11	High 30 Low 14	High 28 Low 15	High 31 Low 18	High 30 Low 7
Snow Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Light Snow	Mostly Cloudy	Light Snow

HOROSCOPES

For the Week of January 30, 2003

ARIES
March 21-April 19

A coworker says to you. Don't take them to heart. They have had a bad week and are just taking it out on you.

CANCER
June 22-July 22

Romance is in the air. Splurge in a little and take your loved one out to dinner. Someone new is coming into your life.

LIBRA
September 23-October 22

You have been feeling sluggish. It could just be a sign that you are overworked, or it could be a sign of something more serious. Make an appointment with your physician to have it checked out.

AQUARIUS
January 20-February 18

An issue is weighing heavily on your mind. Turn to a family member for advice and resolve the matter quickly. An animal befriends you.

TAURUS
April 20-May 20

You receive uplifting news. Friends you haven't seen in awhile are coming for a visit. Plan something special for them.

LEO
July 23-August 22

A young friend is in trouble. Do what you can to help. Your financial records require a second look. Something is awry.

SCORPIO
October 23-November 21

You can't put off that repair job any longer. Do it yourself or hire a professional to take care of it. Don't put off diet and exercise plans.

PISCES
February 19-March 20

A film stirs up some good memories. Get out the scrapbooks, call up some friends you haven't seen in awhile and relive the good times.

GEMINI
May 21-June 21

Your reputation at work takes a beating...but you're not at fault! Don't worry. In time everything will be sorted out and your reputation will recover.

VIRGO
August 23-September 22

You are feeling energetic...use it to catch up on some chores around the house. Don't forget a special date.

SAGITTARIUS
November 22-December 21

A friend suffers a setback. Cheer them up with a get-together at your house. Invite several of their closest friends over and serve some of their favorite foods.

ADVERTISING CLASSIFIED

Classifieds must be paid for in advance

Display Advertising Rate - \$6.30 per column inch

Deadline for Display Classifieds - 12 noon, Monday

Classifieds by the word rate - \$4.40 for 15 words or less, 10¢ per each additional word; includes Internet listing:

www.townnews.com/avalanche/

Classified by the word deadline - 12 noon, Tuesday

Crawford County Avalanche

1. Real Estate

SALE BY OWNER COMMERCIAL BUILDING
on I-75 Bus. Loop, 1750 sq. ft., HVAC, 220 3 phase, 2 restrooms. Presently a restaurant.
Call 517-422-4681



2002 New, Quality, Log sided home on beautiful 3.73 acre wooded parcel. Home offers privacy and outstanding views. Three bedrooms, three baths, magnificent stone fireplace, and attached garage. 2,079 square feet not including full walk-out basement. \$230,000 #4952 Ask for Connie!



River Country Real Estate • 2375 S. I-75 Bus. Loop (989) 348-5474

1. Real Estate

STOP RENTING for as low as \$500 - \$1,000 down and a small monthly payment. You can own your own home and have it paid for in two years. Timberly Village Mobile Home Park. (1/23/03tf/1)

1. Real Estate

NEWLY BUILT 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath. Two car attached garage. Five miles east of Grayling. \$92,000 (989) 348-4840 (-9-16-23-30/1)

MANY NORTHERN MICHIGAN PROPERTIES www.century21grayling.com (1/7/99tf/1)

1. Real Estate

1993 MOBILE HOME 16'x80' Must see, many extras. Three acres wooded. New well, septic, barn. State land 525' away. 3357 N. Down River. \$61,900 cash. (248) 627-7622 (-23-30-6-13/1)

1. Real Estate

LOW LOW MORTGAGE RATES Loan Closing three weeks or less. Northland Area Credit Union. 1-800-336-2328 (8/8/02tf/1)

1. Real Estate

LOOKING FOR ACREAGE Family interested in purchasing acreage with or without cabin/trailer. Close to snowmobile/ORV trails and state land for hunting. (248) 673-5788 (-23-30/1)

MORTGAGES



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Jeanne Lee

231-933-4700
1-800-794-3440

1111 E. Eighth St.
Traverse City, MI 49686

QUALITY • EXPERIENCE • INTEGRITY

MOBILE HOME PARK & Camp Ground Land Contract terms. (989) 348-8959 (7/11/02tf/1)

NINE APARTMENTS and Living Quarters and four nice motel units with Jacuzzi's. \$40,000 down. Land Contract terms. (989) 348-8959 (7/11/02tf/1)

2. For Rent

OFFICE/RETAIL SPACE for rental, 1,200 sq. ft., immediate opening in neon plaza, Kalkaska. Call Sandy (231) 258-8377 between 9:00 to 3:00. (10/24/02tf/2)

MOBILE HOME FOR RENT No pets. Old 27 north, Timberly Village Mobile Home Park. (8/22/02tf/2)

TWO BEDROOM MOBILE HOME Inquire at Timberly Village Mobile Home Park. (10/10/02tf/2)

RE/MAX OF GRAYLING

EACH OFFICE INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED



CRAIG HINKLE
Broker/Owner
State Licensed Appraiser



CHARLENE SCHIER
Broker/Owner
Licensed Real Estate Professional



ATTENTION HORSE LOVERS!!! Square 10 acres. Private setting with 5 stall horse shelter. 80% open pasture land with Birch trees and rolling terrain. Electricity approx. 800' away. Seller is a licensed real estate broker in the State of Michigan. CH-1680 \$41,900



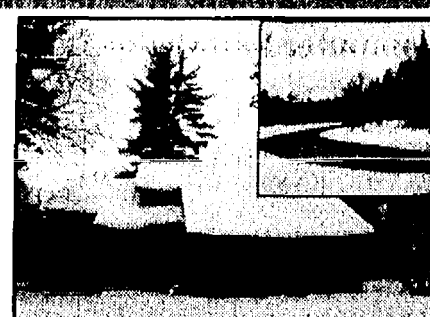
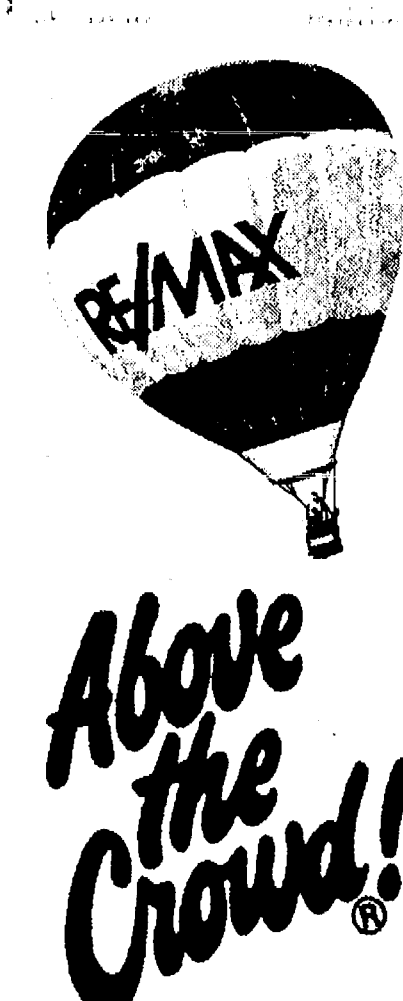
GREAT STARTER OR RETIREMENT HOME. Conveniently located only 1 mile from I-75 and 2 1/2 miles from Grayling. Priced below State Equalized Value. Updated roof, windows, furnace, central A/C, and carpet. All appliances included. 980 s.f., 2 B/R with walk-in closets, 10x10 storage shed. Neat and clean with immediate occupancy. Land Contract Terms. CH-1597 \$32,500



150' FRONTAGE ON THE AUSABLE RIVER! 10.08 acres. Prime building site 12 x 56 concrete slab, well, septic, and electricity. Great for hunting, fishing, and snowmobiling. CH-1661 \$68,900



LAKE MARGRETHE ACCESS cedar sided 1,400 s.f. Home. 3 B/R, 2 baths, master B/R suite w/built in wardrobe and entertainment center. Vaulted knotty pine beamed ceiling in great room. Kitchen has custom hickory cabinets and ceramic tile flooring and counter tops. Two doorways onto brick patio, split rail fence w/brick pillars, landscaped yard w/sprinkling system. Brick sidewalks, and planters. To include dishwasher, garbage disposal, micro, stove, and refrigerator. CH-1375 \$139,900



930 FEET ON THE FAMOUS AUSABLE MAIN-STREAM WITH 5.3 ACRES! For those who dream of enchanting delights... This home is a dream come true. Custom built cedar sided home offers 4BR, 2 1/2 baths. Open floor plan with vaulted ceilings. Large cedar deck with built in 6 person jacuzzi hot tub. Kitchen has beautiful oak cabinets with oak leaf panels, kitchen island and large pantry. Tiled bathrooms. Parge floors in kitchen and dining area. Picturesque setting with a nice landscaped yard. Attached garage and detached garage with upstairs bonus room. Adjoins state land. CS-1692 \$330,000



471 FEET AUSABLE RIVER WITH 2.75 ACRES. Tranquil setting with lots of wildlife. Custom built home offers 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths with 1600 sq. ft. Open floor plan with living room, family room, kitchen and dining area. Master bedroom offers walk in closet. Computer room or den off upstairs bedroom. Full finished basement with laundry facility. Hot tub off back deck. Hot water heat (wood or propane). Manicured lawn with 55 sprinkler heads and 4 zones. 2 garages (attached & detached). CS-1674 \$204,000



SECLUDED ESTATE ON 1.75 ACRES WITH additional 2 lots available for \$6,050 each. This well crafted home is immaculate and offers an open floor plan with 1170 sq. ft. with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Armstrong tongue and groove hardwood floors throughout, oak kitchen cabinets with double duty island serves as work space and snack bar, cathedral ceilings, crestone vinyl windows, ceramic floor in bath, drywall throughout, 2 car attached garage. Comes completely furnished except few items. State land and snowmobile trails 1/4 mile. Ausable River 3.4 mile. Turn key. CS-1672 \$96,900



SEARCHING HIGH AND LOW FOR AN AFFORDABLE HOME? Home offers 948 s.f. with 3 bedroom, 1 bath, full basement with laundry. Large updated kitchen has pantry and floating snack bar. Home is ready to move into. Enclosed porch on front. Double lot with all the city services and convenient to stores, churches, schools etc. CS-1611 \$95,000



THIS 2 BEDROOM, one bath home offers 1,178 sq. ft. Large kitchen and dining room combination. Kitchen offers lots of cabinets. Large utility room with storage. 2 car detached garage with cement patio & apron. 15.5 x 8 enclosed porch and 10 x 30 covered porch. Convenient to shopping, schools, churches, etc. Bank selling as is condition with \$3,000 floor allowance! CS-1629 \$54,900

See us on the internet
<http://www.remaxofgrayling.com>
Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sat. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays by appointment only.
(989) 348-7440
RE/MAX of Grayling

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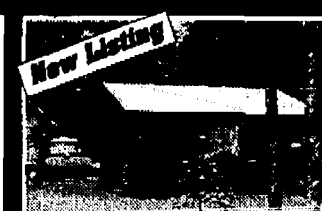
CORNELL REALTY

 Curly LaMotte Associate Broker	 Dwight LaMotte Associate Realtor	 John Howe Associate Realtor	 Kevin Jamison ABR Associate Broker Valuation Specialist	 Diann S. Murphy ABR Associate Realtor	 Fred Shippy Associate Realtor	 Rick Anderson Associate Realtor	 Larry Moore Associate Realtor
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SALES TEAM



The Perfect Starter or Retirement Home! Located close to town, this 3BR, 1 1/2 bath home is the perfect location for a first-time home owner or retiree. Includes family room with wood stove and doorwall leading out to a cement patio, above ground pool, and never drywall in garage. Also features Michigan basement. \$63,000 #225023



Perfect Getaway Cabin! Great little 1 room, 1 bath studio cabin located within walking distance of Wakeley Lake. 20' x 24' garage, great weekend getaway. \$32,900 #225029



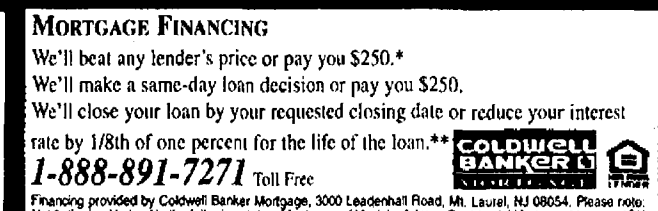
Charm-Comfort-Location! Bright and open with new kitchen. 4 BR, 2 bath home offers newer roof, furnace and drain field are 5 years old. Beautiful yard with fence in back and large deck. The large 2-car garage is wired with 220 for all your needs. \$103,000 #225059



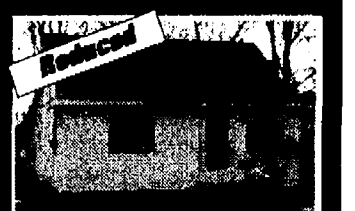
Convenient & Economical! This 2 BR, 1 bath would make a good starter or rental home. Conveniently located close to schools and the hospital. A 24' x 32' garage with 8' x 10' doors new in 2000. Newer water filtering softener system. Back porch is 4' x 8' and enclosed. \$53,000 #225075



Charming Half Log! Beautiful 1/2 log home. 3 BR, with possible 4th, 2 baths, full basement with easy access to set up game room. 24' x 28' garage with 6' x 28' shed and wood storage. Fireplace with insert, knotty pine interior, all on 2.8 acres. \$84,900 #223592



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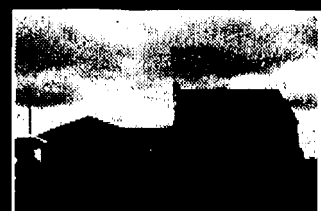
Ideal Fixer-Upper in City! Motivated Seller is looking for the handyman who is ready to purchase this 2 bedroom, 1 bath fixer-upper. Ideal rental property or starter home. \$36,000 #224500



3 Family Apartment! Large home converted to 3 apartments for reasonable income and/or investment opportunity. Each unit includes a refrigerator and gas stove, and is leased by the month. No units are furnished. \$48,900 #224515



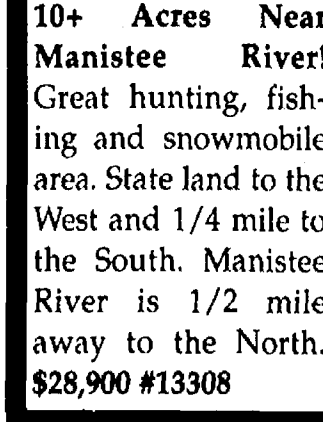
Priced to Sell! Great 1 bedroom, 1 bath weekend getaway just minutes from Lake Margrethe. Snowmobile trail and ORV trail nearby. Includes shed. \$17,900 #223957



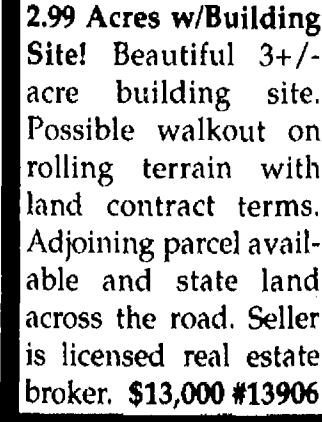
Home on 11.5 Acres with Flowing Well! 3 bedroom, 1 bath 1 1/2 story on paved road 4 miles from West Branch. On 11.5 acres with nice garden spot and flowing well on property. Great starter home or hunting camp! Land contract possible. \$68,000 #223843



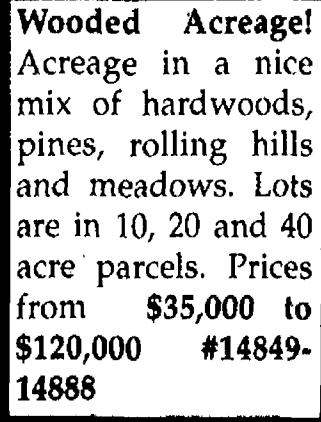
Rustic Log Home! Cozy "rustic feeling" log home on 5 acres. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath with a 24' x 40' barn. \$85,000 #223823



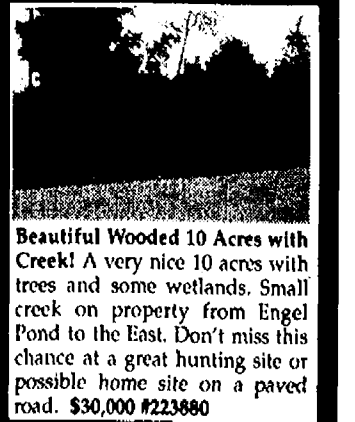
10+ Acres Near Manistee River! Great hunting, fishing and snowmobile area. State land to the West and 1/4 mile to the South. Manistee River is 1/2 mile away to the North. \$28,900 #13308



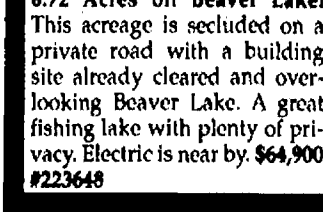
2.99 Acres w/Building Site! Beautiful 3+/- acre building site. Possible walkout on rolling terrain with land contract terms. Adjoining parcel available and state land across the road. Seller is licensed real estate broker. \$13,000 #13906



Wooded Acreage! Acreage in a nice mix of hardwoods, pines, rolling hills and meadows. Lots are in 10, 20 and 40 acre parcels. Prices from \$35,000 to \$120,000 #14849-14888



Beautiful Wooded 10 Acres with Creek! A very nice 10 acres with trees and some wetlands. Small creek on property from Lingel Pond to the East. Don't miss this chance at a great hunting site or possible home site on a paved road. \$30,000 #223680



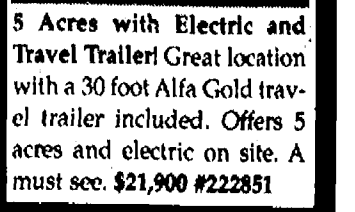
6.72 Acres on Beaver Lake! This acreage is secluded on a private road with a building site already cleared and overlooking Beaver Lake. A great fishing lake with plenty of privacy. Electric is near by. \$64,900 #223648



5 Acres with Electric and Travel Trailer! Great location with a 30 foot Alfa Gold travel trailer included. Offers 5 acres and electric on site. A must see. \$21,900 #222851



Bringing You The Best In Customer Friendly Service!



5 Acres with Electric and Travel Trailer! Great location with a 30 foot Alfa Gold travel trailer included. Offers 5 acres and electric on site. A must see. \$21,900 #222851

2. For Rent

BUSINESS OR OFFICE SPACE for rent. 640 square foot. Excellent traffic location on Federal Highway. One and 1/4 mile west of I-75 Exit 244. (989) 821-5995. (LR2/28/03/2)

Commercial Building For Rent

Suitable for Offices, & Medical Examining Rooms. 775 sq. ft. \$550/month
6251 M-72 West, 1 Mile W. of Grayling. 348-4716

2. For Rent

TWO BEDROOM MOBILE HOME on Arrowhead Rd. New bath, large kitchen and front room in quiet setting. \$1,250 moves you in. \$450 month plus \$450 security plus \$350 for new fill in fuel on tank. Call (989) 348-6334. (LR2/6/03/2)

1,000 Sq Feet OFFICE/RETAIL SUITE

On Business Loop \$500.00 per Month 348-5571

2. For Rent

NICE, CLEAN TWO BEDROOM mobile with garage, washer/dryer and appliances. \$425 plus deposit. No pets. (989) 348-2418. (-30/2)

TWO BEDROOM HOME near North Higgins Lake, new stove and refrigerator available immediately. \$500 per month plus utilities. Call (989) 821-6081. (-30-6/2)

ONE OR TWO BEDROOM upstairs apartment. Conveniently located downtown Grayling. \$375 per month, plus deposit, no pets. Call (989) 348-2833. (-2-9-16-23-30/2)

HOUSE \$580 plus utilities and security deposit. Three bedroom, three month lease then month by month. Nine miles from town. (989) 348-7758 (-30/2)

BEDROOM FOR RENT Only one mile from uptown Grayling and surrounded by woods and wildlife, enjoy a peaceful setting in this spacious home. \$275 per month. All utilities are free, including cable TV, phone, kitchen, laundry and more. (989) 348-2083. (-23-30/2)

TWO BEDROOM, ONE BATH, recently remodeled in town, attached garage. \$395 per month and utilities, references and security deposit required. Call (231) 922-7170 (-30-6/2)

FOR RENT

Grayling Housing Commission
Base Rent is based on 30% of Adjusted Income

Maximum Ceiling Rents

One Bedroom \$400.00
Two Bedroom \$350.00
Three Bedroom . . . \$375.00
Four Bedroom \$400.00
Rent Includes Utilities

These flat rents are the maximum rents to be paid for the units listed above. The Grayling Housing Commission basic rent is calculated on 30% of income.

308 Lawndale Drive
Telephone: 989-348-9314

2. For Rent

VIKING VILLAGE APARTMENTS is now accepting applications for immediate occupancy, as well as waiting list positions. Very nice, two bedroom, two bath apartments with an attached garage and central air conditioning in a private secluded setting. Lease includes appliances, weekly garbage pickup, snow removal, and lawn care. Paved street, natural gas. Credit application required. No pets. Inquire at Farm Bureau Insurance-Herb Olson (989) 348-9456. (-23-30-6-13/2)

TWO BEDROOM MOBILE HOME for rent, no pets. Timberly Village Mobile Home Park, I-75 Business Loop North. (11/21/02tf/2)

2. For Rent

THREE BEDROOM, TWO BATH New home 2.5 acres, two car garage. \$600 plus deposit. (989) 348-1915 (-23-30/2)

NEW MOBILE HOME Three bedroom, two bath. Two car garage near Lake Margrethe. \$575 month plus deposit. (989) 348-1915 (-23-30/2)

OLDER TWO BEDROOM HOUSE in Beaver Creek township. \$450 per month plus utilities, references plus one month security deposit. (989) 275-4126 and leave a message. (-30-6-13/2)

TWO BEDROOM Remodeled, no smoking, no pets. Six miles east of Grayling. \$450 month. (989) 348-4840 (-23-30-6-13/2)

2. For Rent

RECENTLY REMODELED 700 sq. ft two bedroom apartment at 201 Fulton in Grayling. Intercom from apartment to locked security door. Hookup for washer and dryer in apartment and in locked storage space in basement. Air conditioned. Non-smoking. Must see to appreciate. Ideal for single or couple. \$485 per month \$450 security deposit plus utilities. References required. Call (989) 348-7143. (12/5/02tf/2)

SPACIOUS ONE BEDROOM upper in Grayling. Includes all utilities plus trash pick-up, snow plowing. Stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer, digital cable furnished. Lots of storage and closet space. Carpeted throughout. Only quiet, responsible persons need apply. No smoking, no pets. \$565 per month plus deposit. Must have references. Phone (989) 348-8993 (-23-30/2)

RIVER FOREST FAMILY APARTMENTS at the corner of Hannah and Ballenger in Roscommon has One and Two bedroom units for immediate occupancy by qualified persons. Rent based on income, no minimum. Applications at office on site or call (989) 275-4061 or 1-800-225-7982. Managed by Stratford Group, Ltd., 442 W. Baldwin St., Alpena, MI 49707. Equal Housing Opportunity. Hearing TDD # 1-800-855-1155. (-23-30-6-13/2)

RIVERVIEW SENIOR APARTMENTS 306 Knight Street in Grayling has a one bedroom unit available for immediate occupancy. Rent based on income, no minimum. Applications at office on site or call. (989) 348-5837 or 1-800-225-7982. Managed by Stratford Group Ltd., 442 W. Baldwin Street, Alpena, MI 49707. Equal Housing Opportunity. Hearing TDD # 1-800-855-1155. (-23-30-6-13/2)

DUPLEX FOR RENT Three miles from Grayling, Eagle Point area. 1,400 sq. ft. Two bedroom, two bath, large master bedroom suite, newer construction. \$725 includes utilities, security deposit. No pets, no smoking. Call (231) 263-0231 (-2-9-16-23-30/2)

3. Employment

2003 PRODUCTION SEASON Assembly starting wage \$7.50. Carlisle Paddles, a Johnson Outdoors company applications thru January 31, 2003 for the summer production season (now thru approx. July 2003). We seek dependable, team-oriented individuals for seasonal assembly positions (40 hours/week). Positions require attention to detail, eye-hand coordination and the ability to maintain a fast work pace and learn quickly. Qualified applicants should apply in person at 4562 N. Down River Rd., in Grayling, Michigan EOE (-23-30/3)

GAS/CONVENIENCE STORE POSITION Clark Retail has an immediate opening for a Store Manager. Competitive pay, benefit, sales bonus. Mail resume to Clark Retail, PO Box 84, Houghton Lake, MI 48629 or fax (989) 366-9057. (-9-16-23-30-6/3)

ATTENTION - WORK FROM HOME \$500 - \$1,500 P/T, \$2,000 - \$4,500 F/T 1-800-304-2936 www.AGreatIncome.com (LR1/30/03/3)

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

G	I	A	Z	O	L	A	C	A
A	R	C	H	G	O	N	E	R
L	O	R	E	R	O	A	N	S
N	E	R	V	E	T	E	D	E
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T	H	A	I	M	O	T	T	O
R	E	N	D	E	R	R	O	L
E	M	S	D	I	A	N	A	G

1. Real Estate

Hey Mortgage Lady!

Spring is coming and I would like to put up some new vinyl siding and do some landscaping to my home when the weather breaks. I have some money coming back from my income taxes but I think I will need more money than that. Should I re-finance, take out a home equity loan or put it on my credit cards?

Sincerely, Green Thumb

Dear Green Thumb,

By using the equity in your home or re-financing you can most likely get a great rate and possibly a tax break on your next year's income taxes. Stop by or call me. Together we can figure out how much you can take out of your home. There might even be enough to pay off those high interest rate credit cards!



"Mortgage Lady" Liz Noffsinger

Mortgage North

307 Huron St. Grayling, MI 49738
Phone 989-348-7632
www.mortgagenorth.com



REAL ESTATE FORECLOSURE SALE

County Building Courthouse
Feb. 12, 2003 at 10:00 a.m.

Property Address: 3009 Rasmus Drive, Grayling, MI
Minimum Bid: \$42,200 + \$1.00

3 bedrooms, 1 bath

Property Size: 21,600 SF

Redemption Period: six (6) months

Offer must be in form of certified check or money order the day of the sale.

For information contact:
USDA Rural Development
240 W. Wright St.
West Branch, MI 48661
(989) 345-5470



1. Real Estate

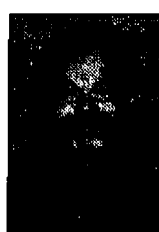
Go With The Winning Team!



Randy Thompson
Broker / Owner



Connie Winans
Associate Broker



Scott Hansen
Sales Agent



Bob Pollack
Sales Agent



Bill Borcher
Sales Agent



Randall Hartley
Sales Agent



Jerry Gosnell
Associate Broker



Ron Baker
Associate Broker



Allen Secord
Sales Associate

Special Feature!



120 acres, home, garage, and large barn with hay loft. This home is older but spotless and in good condition with a full basement and 5 bedrooms. Beautiful mature trees, maple, and other hardwood species cover about 45% of the property. Owner says the tillable land is in excellent condition and has been used wisely in the past. \$320,000 #5047



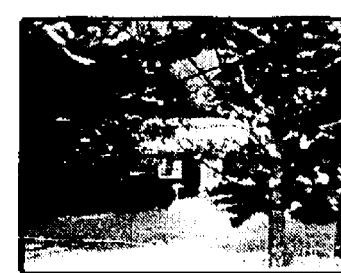
PROUD TO BE AMERICAN!



Very spacious home on two acres. The rear of the property adjoins state land. This home is very comfortable with a fireplace to warm up to in the winter and central air conditioning to cool off in the summer. The property is located on a private dead end street and property size guarantees privacy. \$125,000 #5066



Charming remodeled home featuring new roof, vinyl siding, kitchen, majority of the windows, 2.5 ton central air conditioning, a green house off the living room and gazebo in the back! Garage is insulated, drywalled and heated! A must see! \$83,000 #5065



Three bedroom cottage on secluded lake between Grayling and Gaylord. Ride your snowmobile out your front drive or go fishing from your rear deck. Year round recreation. Nice sandy beach frontage, great swimming and fishing area. Also includes 14' boat. \$129,900 #5068



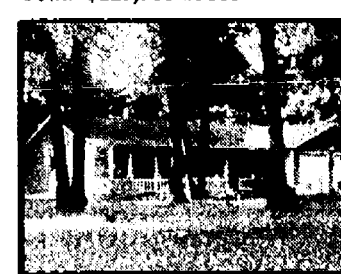
Like new ranch style home on 3 1/5 acres only 6.5 miles from Grayling. This home has two bedrooms and is 744 sq. ft. Features include new interior, hardwood flooring in the kitchen, dining room and living room areas. Home also includes a 22 x 22 attached garage. \$59,900 #4975



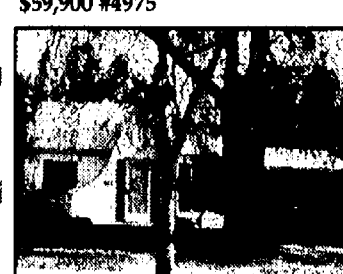
Nicely maintained three bedroom home has a large 20 x 21 living room, and has had many new updates to the home within the past few years, to include new floor covering and new drywall. Located in Beaver Creek Township, Crawford County. \$73,500 #5045



Nice secluded two bedroom home features knotty pine interior with 784 sq. ft. The property includes a 12 x 14 guest house, storage shed and a two car garage. Property features a garden area, and is very close to the AuSable River. \$86,500 #5024



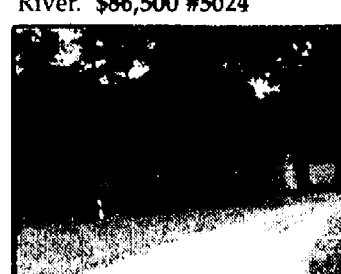
MOTIVATED SELLER!! Well maintained, three bedroom, two bath home is situated on two lots, has a deeded easement to the AuSable River, and backs up to State Land. Featuring a large kitchen with island, paved driveway, shed and tons of beautiful landscaping. \$128,000 #5043



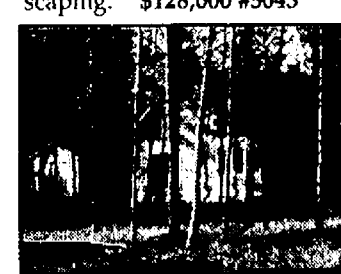
A cozy, clean, very energy efficient home in the city of Grayling. Home features updates such as custom oak cabinets in the kitchen and living room and Anderson windows. Other features are a full basement, gas log brick fireplace, large rear deck, and a very spacious yard. \$67,500 #5059



Newly remodeled four bedroom farm house on 20 acres. Working farm features a hay field, 32 x 48 pole barn, a round pen, wood paddock, and a loading shed. Home has many updates: drywall, oak cabinets, split stone gas fireplace, well, furnace, copper pipes and more. \$139,900 #5023



GREAT LOCATION! Only minutes from town! This three bedroom home has had many updates to include: house wrap and vinyl siding, vinyl windows, new roof and extra insulation to the ceiling (R-40). Garage is 16 x 30 with the back half being utilized as a work shop. \$78,000 #5011



This full log shell includes doors, windows and partitions for rooms. It is a one story construction with a loft and a 16 x 28 half log detached garage. Does not include well, septic, plumbing, heating, electrical, or appliances. \$87,000 #4973



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*A customer must provide a specific, written request for a mortgage rate or price. The request must be made in writing and must be received by the lender within 10 business days of the date of the request. The lender must respond within 10 business days of the date of the request. The lender must provide a written response to the request. The lender must provide a written response to the request. The lender must provide a written response to the request.

3. Employment

PART TIME RECEPTIONIST 25 to 30 hours per week, must be flexible on hours and days. Applicant must have great customer service skills. Be neat and hardworking. Computer experience required. Please send your resume to LN, P.O. Box 490, Grayling, MI 49738. (-16-23-30/3)

HILLMAN NURSING CENTER, Northeast Michigan's premier skilled and long-term care facility is seeking applications both for RN and LPN positions, all shifts. Hillman Nursing Center offers outstanding benefits and an absolutely wonderful work environment. Our dedicated staff of RN's start at \$19.50 an hour and our LPN's at \$15.50. If you enjoy working with and caring for the elderly and want to be part of a team that is enthusiastic and friendly, please call, stop in or send a resume to: ATTN: Debra Brown, RN DON (989) 742-4581, Hillman Nursing Center, 631 Caring St., Hillman, MI 49746 (-30-6-13/3)

3. Employment

HILLTOP MANOR HEALTH CARE CENTER has positions open for full time and/or part time RN's and LPN's. We offer competitive wages along with a benefit package. We also offer midnight shift differential. If you would like to be part of our team please inquire within at 1290 East Michigan Highway, Roscommon, Michigan. (-23-30/3)

SALES REP WARRANTY CO Salary plus commission, paid expenses, auto reimbursement, benefits negotiable. For Grayling and upper Michigan area. Must like to travel. fax resume to (517) 663-3625 or mail resume to: 11807 June Circle, Eaton Rapids, MI 48827. (-2-9-16-23-30/3)

A 30 SECOND COMMUTE, from bed to office. Serious \$\$\$ potential. Full training. FREE info. Home-based Business. Call or visit. 800-657-0112 www.LiveYourDreamsCentral.com (-23-30-6/3)

3. Employment

HOME BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY Excellent \$\$\$ Potential. Improve your family's financial future. P/T - F/T Free info. Full training. www.jmsuccessbuilders.com 800-845-0322 (-16-23-30/3)

HOME BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY Learn to earn income with your own home business. Free booklet. www.fix-doncash.com Call (888) 550-7859. (-16-23-30/3)

PARAPROFESSIONAL Kirtland Community College is accepting applications for a part-time (15 hours per week) paraprofessional for the FLEX lab. Qualified applicants will have the ability to assist faculty and students in the teaching and learning process utilizing established criteria. Beginning base wage \$11.25 per hour; actual compensation will be determined by the 2002-03 salary schedule; limited fringe benefit package. Send letter of application, resume, and three letters of reference to Human Resources Department, Kirtland Community College, 10775 N. St. Helen Rd., Roscommon, MI 48653. Applications will be accepted until February 14, 2003. Kirtland Community College is an equal employment opportunity/affirmative action employer. Visit our web site at <http://www.kirtland.cc.mi.us> or call (989) 275-5000, ext. 239 for a complete position description. (-30/3)

MERCY AMICARE HOME-CARE & HOSPICE is looking for an RN who is willing to work contingently for the Hospice service. This person will work in the office and/or some occasional field work. Computer or laptop experience a plus! This is a great opportunity for an RN who does not want a caseload, or specific schedule. One or more years of experience, med surg nursing, or hospice/homecare experience. Candidate must have excellent interpersonal skills and be organized. Interested candidates can call Gayle Willett for more information (800) 424-1457 or mail resume/application to: 201 Meadows Drive, Suite A, Grayling, MI 49738. Fax: (989) 348-0045 Attn: Gayle. Achieving Workforce Diversity Through Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. (12/19/02/f/3)

3. Employment

HOME AND GARDEN PARTY is expanding in your area. High commission, no inventory, no delivery. PT/FT wanted. Call toll free (866) 230-0443. (-23-30-6-13/3)

OFFICE CLERK/RECEPTIONIST Full time position with full benefits available. Must possess office/computer skills and have 1-2 years of previous experience. College degree preferred but not necessary. Accounting knowledge a plus. Send resume in confidence to: ATTN: Office Manager, P.O. Box 49, Prudenville, MI 48651 or fax to (989) 366-9458 (-16-23-30/3)

4. Services Offered

DOLL REPAIR Kiln firing, and doll supplies. Call (989) 348-8350 (12/12/02/f/4)

WE'RE BACK Patrick Ross Painting and Handyman Service. No job too small. Offering painting, paperhanging and removal, drywall, home repairs, remodeling and wiring solutions for cable, phone, computer and home theater. For your Free Estimate. Call (989) 344-ROSS or (989) 348-9776 (-30-6/4)

SNOWPLOWING Also roof, snow and ice removal will beat any price. Please call (989) 344-1071. (-16-23-30-6/4)

FOR NEW HOME CONSTRUCTION, add-on, garages, pole buildings, renovation, repairs, window and door replacement, roofing, siding, Metal roofs and ceramic tile, hardwood flooring. Call Cross Roads Construction, 6280 Atkinson Rd., Grayling, Michigan. Call (989) 344-0238 or (734) 644-6640 today for a complimentary consultation. (7/4/02/f/4)

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No odd jobs too small for Odd Job

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4. Services Offered

INCOME TAXES PREPARED Low cost, thirty years experience. (989) 348-4771 (-23-30/4)

PIANO TUNING AND REPAIRS Rogers Piano Service, Fairview, MI 48621. Over 20 years experience. (989) 848-2262. (-2-16-30/4)

ROOF SNOW REMOVAL 15 years experience. Call for a free estimate. (989) 348-5848 or (989) 942-7303 (cell). (-30/4)

DRIVER'S TRAINING & Road Testing is offered by the Grayling Drivers Training School. Register now for the April 8 class. Contact Howard Lehti (989) 348-8838. (LR4/3/03/4)

M AND L CLEANING SERVICE with references. For more information call (989) 348-1292 or (989) 348-5048. (-9-16-23-30/4)

TOM'S POLE BUILDINGS Free quotes on all size buildings. Featuring Ultra 2000 siding & roofing. 4050 Industrial Dr., Harrison, Michigan 1 (800) 541-3974 tomspolebuildings.com (2/7/02/f/4)

5. For Sale

THREE HORSES KING Nine-year-old Quarterhorse Gelding Sorrel good temperament. Spot in right eye. Needs good home. \$1,000. Jaylee-13-year-old Appaloosa Registered Mare Chestnut, beautiful horse handles very well good temperament \$1,900. Blizzard 12-year-old thoroughbred Gelding Grey Dapple handles well. \$1,400 (989) 348-5491 ask for Bart. (23-30-6-13/5)

DRY OAK FIREWOOD Split and delivered. \$45 a face cord, two cord minimum. (989) 348-1870 after 6:00. 619-0912 work. (LR5/1/03/5)

WOODSTOVE WITH BLOWER and some pipe. \$150 (989) 348-3937 (-30/5)

2002 SKI-DOO MXZ 500 Fan, Yellow, electric start, reverse, garage kept, showroom new, 1,250 miles. \$4,950. (989) 821-9367 (-30-6/5)

TWO ANTIQUE TYPE PIECES of furniture. One dresser, one bureau. Call (989) 821-8343 for more details. (-30/5)

AMISH LOG BED and queen pillowtop mattress set. New in plastic. Cost \$900, sacrifice for \$225. Call (989) 539-3910 or (989) 429-0062. (-30/5)

Grayling Re-Do-It Re-Sale Shop
We sell furniture, decor for every room & collectibles.
Open Tuesday - Friday 9-5 • Saturday 10-5
111 Vilas Street • Grayling
(One block North of Custer's)

5. For Sale

GOT THEFT? For sale: (2) 2002 Panasonic time lapse video recorders for security and surveillance. Record 24, 48, 72, 96 hrs. up to 7 days on one VHS Tape. If you have something you want to "Catch on Tape" call (989) 348-9776. \$1,100 new, asking \$350 ea. (-30/5)

SNOWMOBILE AUCTION Saturday, February 1 at 9 a.m. Hundreds of snowmobiles, plus 3 and 4 wheelers, trailers, related items. You can buy or sell! Our 28th year—America's largest. Info at www.snowmobileauction.com or call 517-369-1153. Lots of fun—bring a friend! White Star Snowmobile Auction, Inc. east of Bronson, Michigan on US 12. (-23-30/5)

6. Wanted

FOLKS INTERESTED in Model Railroad. First meeting, Monday, February 3 at 6 p.m. Location: Grayling Free Methodist Church, 6352 M-72 West. Any questions (989) 348-1185 (-23-30/6)

7. Miscellaneous

4 X 8 Lighted Signs and or tables and chairs for special occasions. Trash barrels for sale at Fick & Sons, Grayling. (989) 348-7647 or 1-800-292-9295. (7/25/02/f/7)

FREE TO GOOD HOME English Springer Spaniel about eight years old. Spayed and up-to-date on shots. Great with children but no other pets please. Loves water and is very energetic and likes lots of attention. Call (989) 348-6479. (-30/7)

8. Announcements

Animal Shelter of Crawford County Board of Directors will meet
Wed., February 12th
at 6 p.m. at the
Gray Rock Cafe.

PRESCRIPTION DISCOUNTS NOW!
Why wait for government programs to start? The MATURE RX Card gives you and your entire family discounts up to 65% at a cost of less than 4¢ per day! Now available at Look! Insurance across from Buccilli's Pizza. For more information call 344-1111.

North Central Community Mental Health

Is seeking individuals to provide care for adults with developmental disabilities in a group home in Grayling. Rewarding work environment with staffing ratio of 1:3 or less. "Previous experience with behavioral health care services is a plus." Starting wage is \$7.11/hr, increased to \$8.90/hr after paid training. Potential for promotion to full-time with excellent fringe benefit package. Applicants must have proof of high school diploma/equivalent, reliable transportation, and a working home telephone. Must have acceptable driving and criminal record checks. To apply, call Beth at (989) 348-2461 Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. EOE

SAVE-A-LOT

Great Food at Great Prices!
Fenneman Brothers LLC

Save-A-Lot Food Stores is searching for a qualified candidate for the position of Assistant Manager, in our Grayling Save-A-Lot Food Store at 2333 S. I-75 Business Loop.

Minimum Qualifications

- Willing to supervise and perform physical work, including stocking, maintenance, cleaning, cashiering in a busy grocery store environment.
- Excellent cash handling skills.
- Grocery or retail experience in a supervisory position is preferred but not required.
- High School Diploma/GED

We Offer You

- Complete Training
- Competitive wages
- Full benefits: including medical, dental, vision, life insurance, 401K, paid vacations, disability,
- Promotions from within
- A fun and exciting opportunity and challenge

Please see Chris in person with an updated resume at:
Save-A-Lot
2333 S. I-75 Business Loop, Grayling, MI 49738
EOE

Employment Opportunities at Otsego Memorial Hospital

Otsego Memorial Hospital, a growing provider of primary health care services in beautiful northern Michigan, is seeking individuals to fill the following positions:

- Coder.
- OR Tech.
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Registered Respiratory Therapist
- CENA Extended Care
- RN/LPN, Extended Care, (Part-time)
- RN, Certified Diabetes Educator, (Part-time)
- Clinical Medical Assistant (Contingent)
- Housekeeper (Part-Time)
- Director of Nursing, McReynolds Hall
- RN, Oncology/Surgery, Phys. Services

In Gaylord, our emphasis is on outdoor recreation and quality of life. We enjoy a healthful climate which is ideal for year-round sporting activities including golf, camping, boating, tennis, cross-country and downhill skiing, hunting, fishing, and more. Gaylord boasts a strong business community and award winning schools.

OMH offers an excellent full-time benefit package including health, dental, vision, life and disability insurance; discount prescription; continuing education/tuition assistance; pension and generous paid time off.

Applications are available online at www.gaylordhospital.org (click on Career link), or mail, fax or e-mail resume to:

Human Resources Department, Otsego Memorial Hospital
825 North Center, Gaylord, MI 49735

e-mail: hr@gaylordhospital.org
Phone: (989) 731-2252 • Fax: (989) 731-7792



OTSEGO MEMORIAL HOSPITAL



REWARD

Lost Dog

Lost Sunday Morning
January 19th in the
Beaver Road - Military Road Area



5 Month Old Brindle
(Light and Dark Stripes) Male Boxer
White on one side of lip and nose and dark
on the other side. Very Loved Family Friend
Please Call Sharon Priebe at 348-2346
Evenings & Weekends
or Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 348-5982
WE WILL PAY A REWARD FOR HIS RETURN

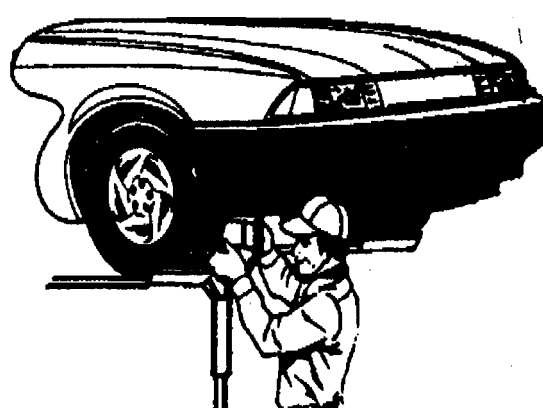
ARE YOU A PROUD PARENT?
THE AVALANCHE WILL BE PRINTING A SPECIAL COLOR SECTION CALLED -
CRAWFORD COUNTY'S SWEETHEARTS 2003
DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 14, 2003. THE COST IS
\$10.00 FOR EACH PHOTO SUBMITTED.

11. Automotive

OIL CHANGE
IN 29 MINUTES
OR LESS OR THE NEXT ONE IS FREE!

- Oil change (up to five quarts of oil)
- Oil filter
- Chassis lube
- Fluid level checks
- Brakes - differential transfer case - transmission windshield washer
- 25-point inspection
- No Appointment Necessary

- Competitive Up-Front Pricing
- Limited Lifetime Guarantee on Parts & Labor
- Courtesy Transportation



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EVERY DAY!

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American Express
Hours: Mon - Fri 8:00 am - 5:30 pm
Sat 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Announcements

ANY NON-PROFIT or government agency wishing to bid on local FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) Emergency Food and Shelter Funds must submit a proposal and certification forms to the Crawford County Family Independence Agency by January 31, 2003. Crawford County has been awarded a grant of \$8,233. Funds will be divided based on proposals meeting criteria to assist local residents with emergency food and shelter, supplementing or extending existing programs. If interested, contact Cynthia Pushman at (989) 344-5121 for the appropriate forms. (-23-30/8)

GRAYLING HOLIDAY INN'S Speakeasy Saloon live entertainment. Wednesday thru Saturday bands playing. Jan. 22 & 23 D.J. Cal; Jan. 24 & 25 Back Talk; Jan. 29 - Feb. 1 Sweet Talk Happy Hour is back! 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. 25 oz. drafts. \$2; Bass Ale and Guinness Stout, 25 oz, \$5. (-23-30/8)

ARE YOU CRAZY ABOUT BEADS? J. Dap Co. Gift Store will be holding a Bead Night Monday, Feb. 3 from 6-8. This will give all you bead lovers a chance to share ideas. There will be no charge. Just bring your imagination!! J. Dap Co. located at 118 Michigan Ave. in Grayling. Call (989) 348-4011 for details. (-30/8)

KARAOKE FRIDAY AND SATURDAY night 9-? Plaza Bar. Come and join the fun. (1/24/02tf/8)

SKYLINE RESTAURANT SPECIALS Thursday night, 8 oz. Prime Rib dinner \$9.95. Friday night all you can eat Deep Fried Icelandic Cod Fillet dinner \$9.95. Pan Fried Lake Perch or Walleye dinner \$11.99. Deep Fried Breaded Cod Basket \$5.99. Saturday night BBQ rib. 1/2 slab \$9.95, full slab \$12.95. 12 oz. Ribeye steak \$12.95. All dinners are served with salad-bar soup and potato. Other specials served daily. (989) 275-5445 (10/24/02tf/8)

9. Personals

Michigan "Biker" Matchmaking
Why ride alone? Place your free personal ad today. You can search or have us search ads for you, and FREE too! Please visit www.michiganbikermatchmaking.com

REWARD

Lost Dog on Jan. 12TH
Frederic Township Near High School
Black Male Cocker Mix
Call (989) 348-9620

See a photo you like in the Avalanche?
Purchase a copy for yourself.
4x6 ~ \$4
5x7 ~ \$6
8x10 ~ \$12
Crawford County Avalanche
348-6811

11. Automotive

1995 BUICK LESABRE Four door, custom, excellent condition, \$4,500 (989) 348-8963 (-30/11)

1988 GMC TRUCK 2 WD, 1 ton, high mileage, very dependable. \$3,495 (989) 344-7669 (1/16/03tf/11)

11. Automotive

2000 CHEVY VENTURE 36,000 miles. Asking \$12,500 O.B.O. (989) 348-4156 (LR 3/20/03/11)

1995 FORD ESCORT Five speed sedan, air, new parts and new tires, excellent condition. \$800 (989) 344-0601 (-30/11)

11. Automotive

1994 PONTIAC SUNBIRD Two door, four cylinder, 56k actual miles, clean, one owner. \$3,550 (989) 348-1499 (-23-30/11)

1993 CHEVY CAVALIER Two door, 84k miles, four cylinder, clean. \$2,550 (989) 348-1499 (-23-30/11)

11. Automotive


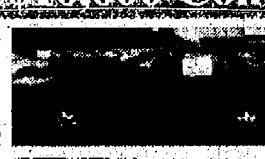
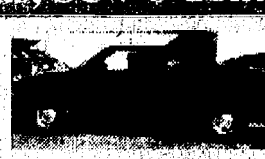
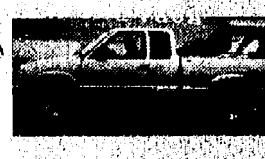







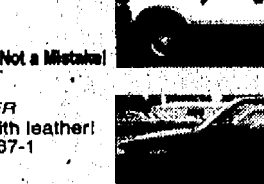



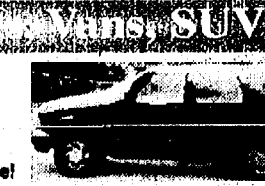
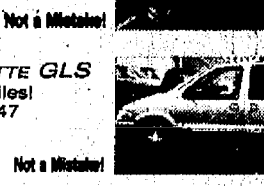




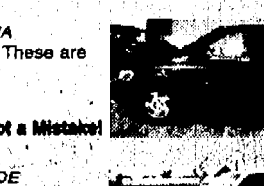




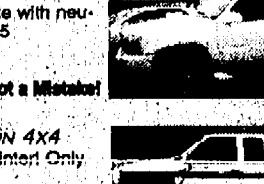

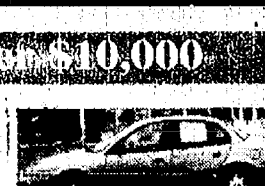

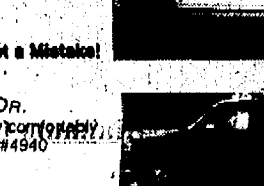

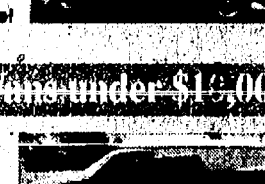


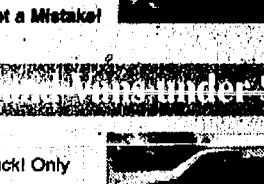
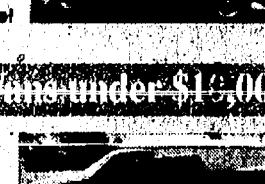

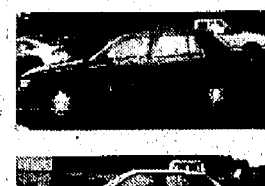
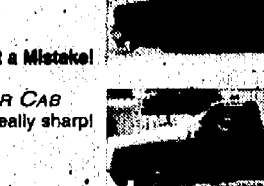












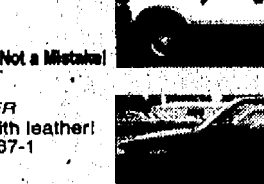



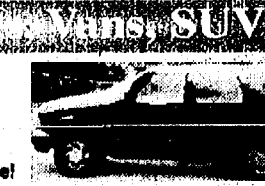
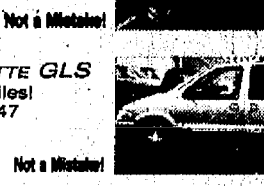




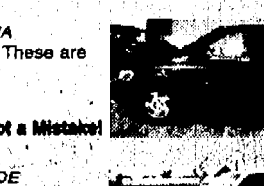




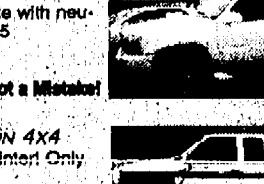

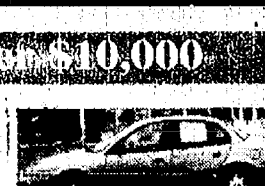

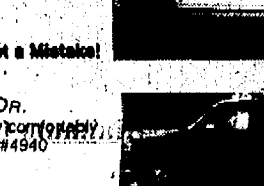

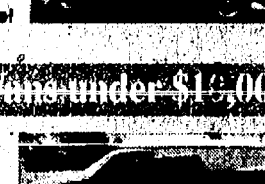


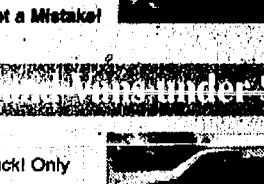
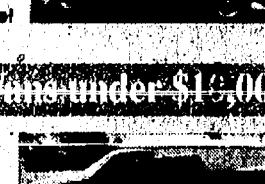

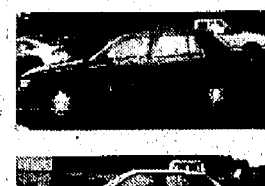
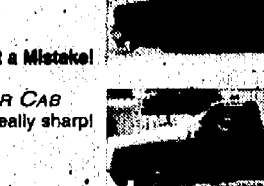







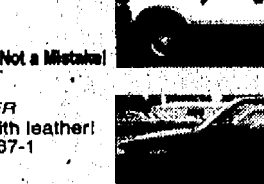



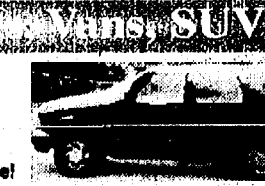
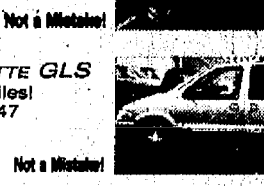




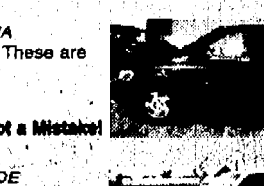




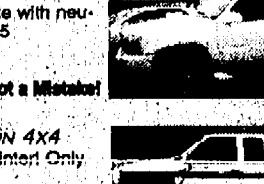

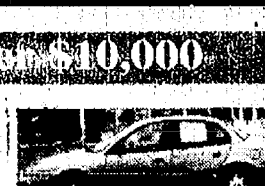

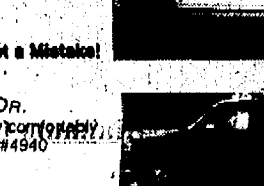

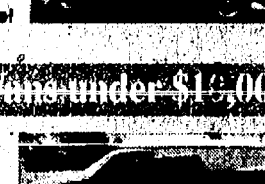


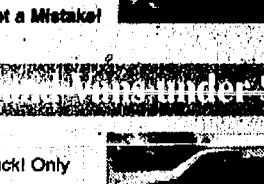
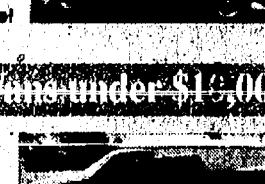

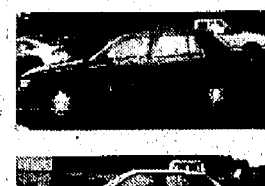
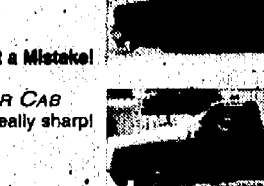






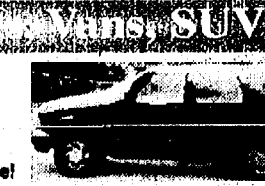
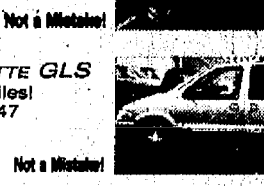




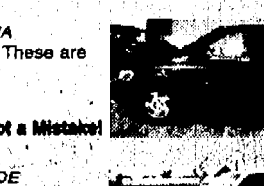




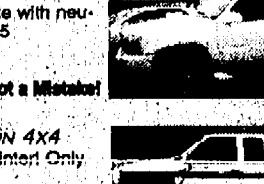

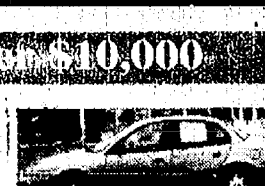

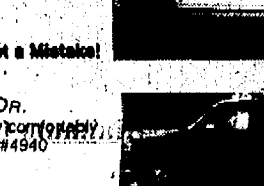

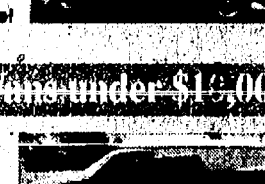


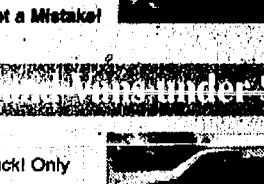
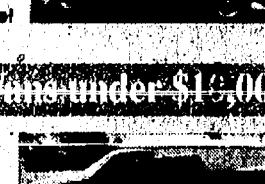

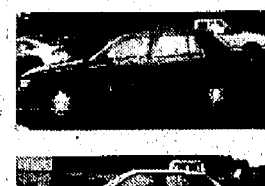
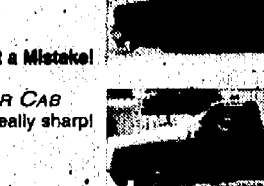







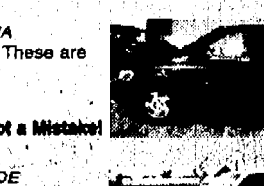




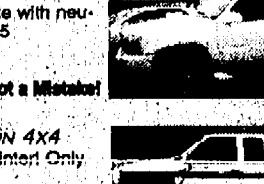

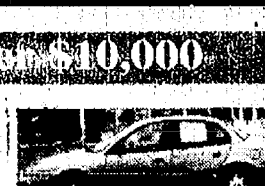

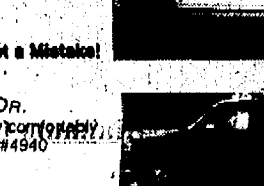

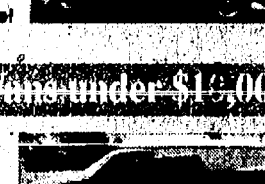


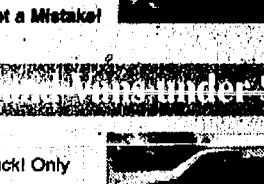
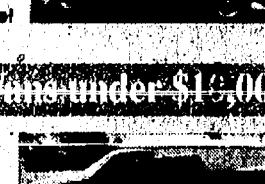

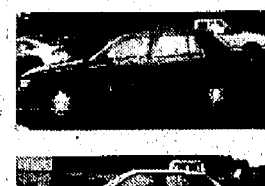
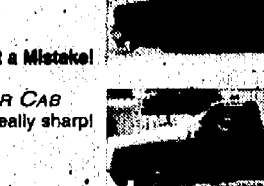







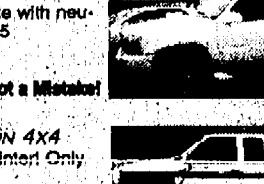

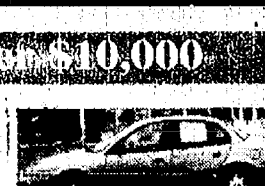

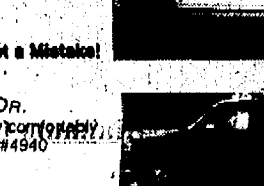

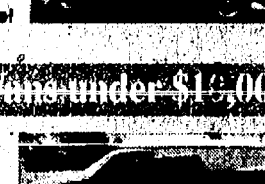


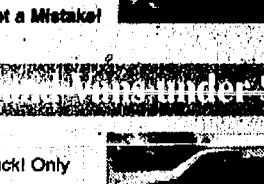
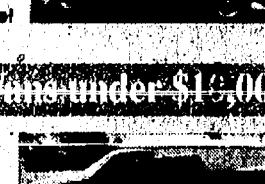

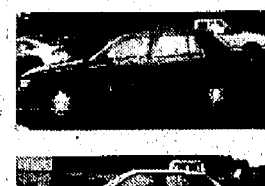
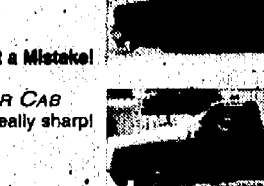





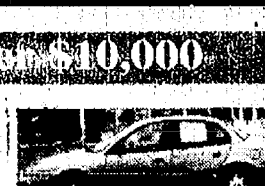

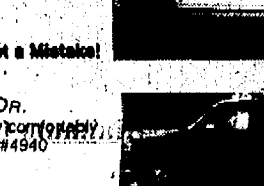

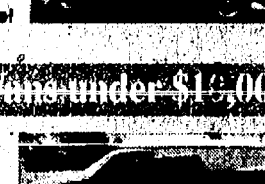


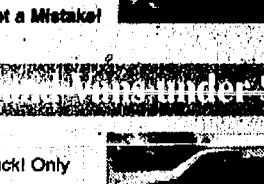
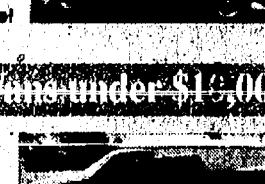

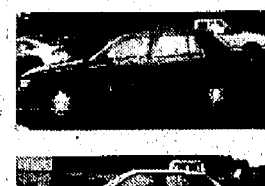
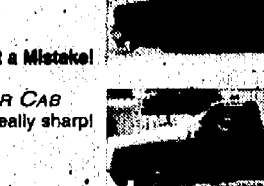







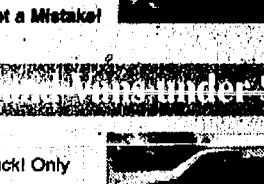
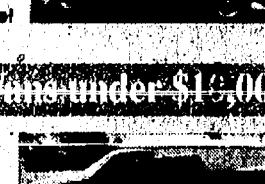

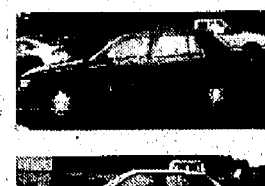
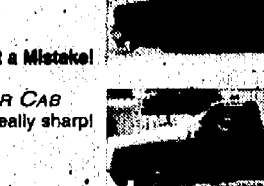





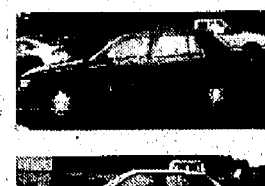
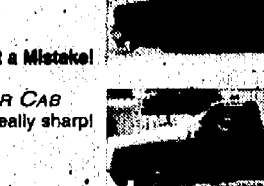









1991 DODGE CONVERSION VAN 318 engine, very good condition. \$2,800 O.B.O. 1993 Dodge Shadow, very clean, good condition. \$1,500. (989) 348-7597 (-30-6-13/11)


AVALANCHE OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 102 Michigan Avenue, Grayling - (989) 348-6811

11. Automotive


GMC SIERRA EXTENDED 4WD, Z71 350 automatic, loaded. 1991 has engine warranty remaining, excellent condition, matching Fiberglass cap, never any rust. \$8,900 (989) 348-8659 message. (1/23/03tf/11)


WINTER USED CAR CLEARANCE


Next to Now	Clean Car	10,000 Cont.	Next to New	Van, SUV's Cont.																																																							
2000 CHEVY MALIBU LS V6, power windows and doors, CD/Cassette, real nice! #19287-1 Was \$13,495 Blowout Price \$11,988 Not a Mistake! 	1999 SATURN WAGON SW1 Auto. with air! Very clean! Must See! Great Gas Mileage! #4882 Was \$12,988 Blowout Price \$9,988 Not a Mistake! 	1999 PONTIAC SUNFIRE 4 dr., only 40,000 miles! Clean and Sharp! Red! Worry Free 4 mo./4,000 warranty! #19263-1 Was \$12,988 Blowout Price \$9,988 Not a Mistake! 	1999 GMC SONOMA EXT. CAB 4x4 SLS, fully equipped, very clean and sharp! #4918 Was \$15,988 Blowout Price \$13,988 Not a Mistake! 	1999 S-10 EXT. CAB 2 Wheel drive, 3rd door, auto., air, LS, tilt, cruise! A great little truck for a little bit of money! #4825 Was \$13,988 Blowout Price \$11,988 Not a Mistake! 	2001 CHEVY MONTE CARLO SS Wow! Flame Red with power moon roof and lots of goodies! This one won't be here long! #19243-1 Was \$19,988 Blowout Price \$17,988 Not a Mistake! 	1998 BUICK LESABRE Custom, popular "Sandrift" color, very nice and sharp! #19138-2 Was \$10,988 Blowout Price \$9,488 Not a Mistake! 	1998 FORD TAURUS GL, loaded with options, clean and nice! Has some miles, but the price shows it! #19457-1 Was \$6,988 Blowout Price \$4,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 CHEVY BLAZER LT 4 Dr., 4x4, Leather, Sunroof, Two-Tone paint, Beautiful Unit! #19317-1 Was \$16,488 Blowout Price \$16,988 Not a Mistake! 	1998 FORD EXPLORER 2 dr., 4x4, Sport Model! Loaded with leather! Very nice, very clean! #19067-1 Was \$13,988 Blowout Price \$12,488 Not a Mistake! 	2001 PONTIAC SUNFIRE 2 Dr., Red with power sunroof! Auto., air, spoiler, really sharp! #4728-1 Was \$11,988 Blowout Price \$10,488 Not a Mistake! 	2000 BUICK REGAL GS, Top of the line, leather, sunroof, a beautiful car! #19153-1 Was \$14,988 Blowout Price \$13,488 Not a Mistake! 	2003 PONTIAC VIBE Auto, air, CD, power options, Satellite Silver, only 10,000 miles! A lot less than new! #4944 Was \$17,988 Blowout Price \$16,488 Not a Mistake! 	2000 OLDSMOBILE SILHOUETTE GLS With leather, only 28,000 miles! Loaded with goodies! #4847 Was \$22,988 Blowout Price \$14,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 PONTIAC MONTANA Lots of extras and only 30,000 miles! These are \$25,000 brand new! #4968 Was \$14,988 Blowout Price \$12,988 Not a Mistake! 	1998 BUICK PARK AVENUE Beautiful white luxury car with all the bells & whistles! Very clean! A real bargain! #19145-1 Was \$15,988 Blowout Price \$12,988 Not a Mistake! 	2001 SATURN LS1 Bigger Saturn with all the small car reliability! 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Ready for Winter! #19355-5 Was \$19,555 Blowout Price \$17,988 Not a Mistake! 	1996 FORD RANGER REGULAR CAB 2 Wheel drive "splash" slick with air. Really sharp! #19358-2 Was \$4,988 Blowout Price \$3,488 Not a Mistake! 	1996 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO 6 cyl. nice! Ready for winter! #19186-3 Was \$9,988 Blowout Price \$8,488 Not a Mistake! 	1995 PLYMOUTH NEON Great car for the price! #19279-1 Was \$3,988 Blowout Price \$2,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 CHEVY SUBURBAN 4x4 New body style with leather! Rear air, loaded! Only 29,000 miles! #4896 Was \$31,988 Blowout Price \$28,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 CHEVY SILVERADO REG. CAB 2 Wheel Drive, Auto. with air! V-8 only 10,000 miles! #4899 Was \$17,988 Blowout Price \$14,988 Not a Mistake! 	1996 FORD STAR MINIVAN Nice van with lots of family driving left for a little price! #19512-1 Was \$6,988 Blowout Price \$6,988 Not a Mistake! 	1996 JEEP CHEROKEE SPORT 4x4 4 dr., sport model, very clean and sharp! #19570-1 Was \$7,988 Blowout Price \$5,988 Not a Mistake! 	1998 DODGE NEON Auto. with air, CD, power windows and local! Great fuel economy! #18890-1 Was \$6,988 Blowout Price \$5,988 Not a Mistake! 	1998 PONTIAC TRANS SPORT Ext. 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Varsity squad falls to Tawas, Oscoda

Continued from Page 1B

on an in-bounds pass from Tobin. Helsel, Kaiser, Lange, and Chad Helsel also had points for GHS in the quarter.

The game was tied at 48-48 going into the fourth quarter.

Tawas scored first in the fourth period on two free throws. A drive by Kaiser and two free throws by Lange put GHS up by two.

A shot inside by Tawas tied the game at 52-52. Drives by Tobin and Kaiser gave Grayling a 56-52 advantage. A triple by Tawas cut it to one. A jump shot by T. Helsel gave Grayling a three-point lead.

The next three scores were made at the free throw line. A drive by Tobin put the Vikings up 62-58 with 3:10 left in regulation.

Tawas hit one of two free throw shots, then stole the ball and drove in for two.

A shot inside by Czapek on a pass from Kaiser put the Vikings up 64-61 with 2:05 remaining. Grayling got the ball back and scored on a shot inside by Lange.

Tawas answered with a triple to pull within two, 66-64, with 1:24 left in the game.

Tawas stole the ball, shot, missed, and Kaiser came down with the rebound. Up by two, the Vikings ran time off the clock and called a time-out at the 0:32 mark.

On the in-bounds play after the time-out, the Vikings were called for an over-and-back violation.

Tawas had possession with 30 seconds left.

The Braves connected on a three-pointer with 15 seconds on the clock. The Vikings turned the ball over and had to foul to stop the clock. The Braves missed the first shot and made the second, putting Tawas up by two with seven seconds remaining.

Grayling got the ball in and across half-court and called time-out with four seconds left in the contest.

The Vikings got the ball in, shot, and missed. The ball went out of bounds, last touched by Tawas, just before the clock expired. The horn sounded, but the officials had 1.2 seconds put back on the clock. The Vikings had one more chance.

Grayling tried to get the ball in to Kaiser, but Tawas picked off the pass, ending the game.

Tawas won by a final score of 68-66.

"We had our opportunities down the stretch offensively," Coach Rich Moffit said. "Defensively, we had some major mental mistakes during key moments. We relaxed during some key defensive situations and Tawas took advantage."

"On the positive side, I liked the toughness that we showed in the second half, coming back from a five-point deficit," Coach Moffit said.

Lange posted a double-double in the match with 16 points and 13 rebounds, both team highs. Czapek scored 14 points, Kaiser

scored 12, and T. Helsel had 11. Kaiser had 5 assists and 3 steals.

On Friday, the Vikings lost a league match at Oscoda 68-61.

The Owls led 37-29 at the half. Grayling fought back with an 18-12 third quarter, but Oscoda won the fourth period 19-14 to hand the Vikings their second conference loss of the week.

"We struggled fundamentally at the defensive end of the court," Coach Moffit said. "We had individuals who played hard, but as a team we did not get the job done at the defensive end of the court."

"We are 6-0 when we hold our opponents under 60 points," Moffit said, "but on Friday we allowed the following on defense: 18 uncovered cuts and post-ups in the paint area, 27 dribble penetrations, and 25 missed box-outs. When this team values defense, we will experience winning again."

Tobin scored 17 and had 3 assists in the match. Czapek had 14 points. Lange finished with 11 points and 9 rebounds. Andy Strohpaal had 4 steals.

NORTH EAST MICHIGAN CONFERENCE			
VARSITY BASKETBALL STANDINGS			
team	league record	overall record	
BC John Glenn	5-2	7-4	
GRAYLING	5-2	6-4	
Tawas	3-2	7-3	
Standish Sterling	3-3	5-6	
Oscoda	3-4	6-4	
Ogemaw Heights	2-4	3-7	
Pinconning	1-5	2-10	

NEMC standings compiled by The Bay City Times

The Vikings play at Standish Sterling Central on Friday, January 31. On Tuesday, February 4 all three GHS boys basketball teams will host Roscommon. The freshman game starts at 4:30 p.m. and the JV and varsity contests will follow.

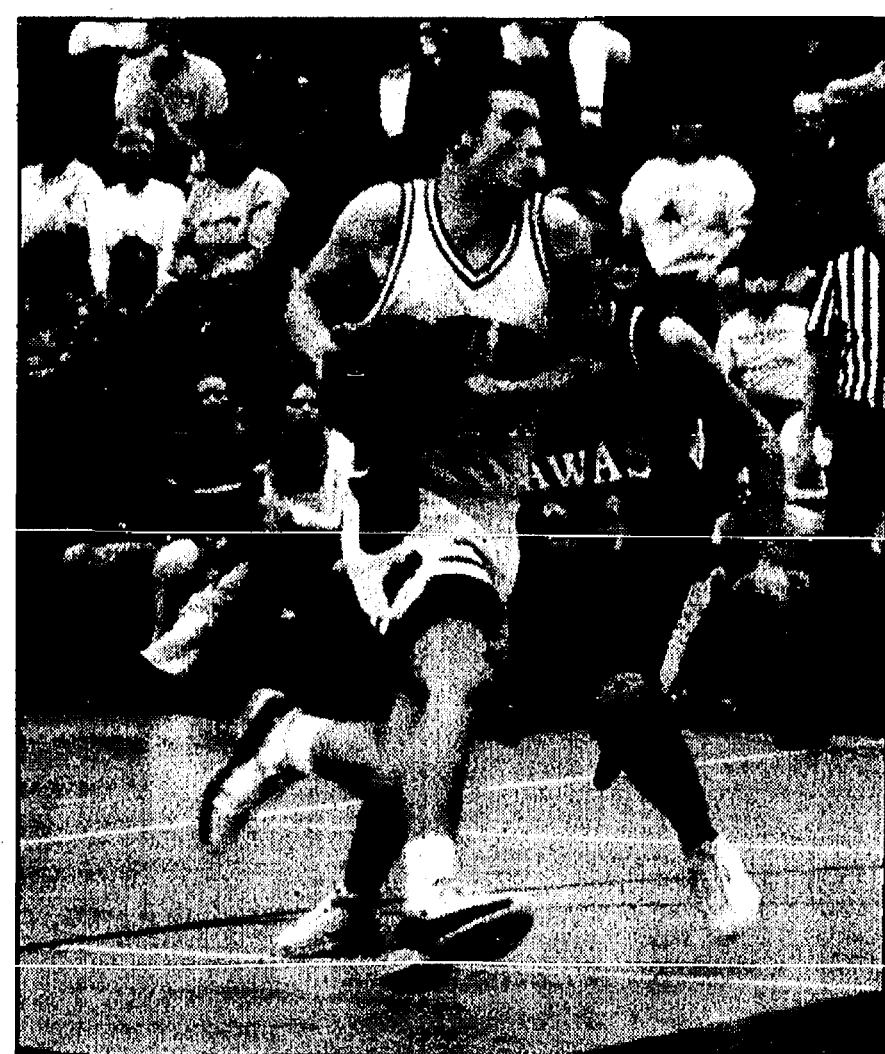


Photo by Caleb Casey

Andy Strohpaal drives for Grayling in last Tuesday's two-point loss to the Tawas Braves at GHS.

8th grade team wins two, loses one

In three recent close games, Grayling Middle School's 8th grade boys basketball (white) team won two and lost one. The team is 6-2 so far this season.

Last Wednesday, the Vikings won at Gaylord 28-25.

The game was tied at 3-3 after one quarter, Gaylord led 13-10 at the half, and the Blue Devils had

an 18-15 advantage going into the fourth period. The Vikings came back to win. Terry Fraley, Nick Parkinson, and Moses Peters combined for 13 points in the fourth quarter to lead Grayling.

"The team played good defense and ran the offense better," said Coach Jim Burch. "We missed many easy shots that we should have made. The team is improving with each game. I am pleased with its progress."

Peters finished the game with 10 points. Nick Parkinson had 9, and Fraley scored 7.

On Monday, the Vikings defeated Kalkaska in overtime 26-25 at GMS.

"The team never quit," Coach Burch said. "We were down 10-0 at the end of the first quarter — they played great defense after that and the offense came to life and outscored Kalkaska 26-15 the rest of the way. I am proud of the way the team played."

Kalkaska tied the game with about five seconds left in regulation. Both teams scored in overtime, and with about 20 seconds left, Carlos Ledesma converted on a foul shot to give GMS a 26-25 lead.

Peters, Pat Belcher, Fraley, Jeremiah Bootz, Parkinson, Ledesma, and Tim Hatley all scored for GMS in the contest.

On January 15, the Vikings lost an overtime game at Houghton Lake 25-23.

"We played well for three quarters and didn't protect the ball in the fourth and were outscored 9-0, and 4-2 in the overtime," Coach Burch said. "I am proud of the team and we are continuing to improve."

Parkinson, Peters, Belcher, Ledesma, and Dennis Nelson all scored for the Vikings in the match.

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Rings And Things

By Tresa Erickson

You finally know how and where you are going to propose. Now all you need is an engagement ring. Not just any old ring will do, however. You want the perfect ring. But where do you start and what do you need to know as you shop for the perfect ring?

Before you go to any jewelry store, you need to educate yourself on the 4Cs: Color, Clarity, Cut and Carat. All help determine the value of a diamond.

Generally diamonds have brown or yellow undertones, as well as interior and exterior flaws, such as scratches, nicks and inclusions. The less color and the more clarity a diamond has, the higher its value. A diamond that is cut proportionately and symmetrically will reflect more light, increasing both its sparkle and its value. The more carats a diamond weighs, the more rare it is and the more it is

worth. To learn more about the 4Cs, go to the Gemological Institute of America's Web site at 4cs.gia.edu.

Once you know a bit more about the 4Cs, check with the Better Business Bureau or local chamber of commerce for a list of reputable jewelers. You are probably going to spend a good deal of money, so you want make sure you get the real thing. You should also find out about the stores' return and repair policies.

As you shop for a ring, take your time and stick to your budget. You don't want to empty your bank account for the first huge diamond you see. Smaller diamonds are often of better quality than larger ones. Again, knowing the 4Cs will help you to choose the best ring for your money.

When choosing a ring, think about your fiancée's tastes in jewelry. Does she wear a lot of gold or platinum jewelry? Does she like

gemstones? Does she lean toward more simple or elaborate pieces? More importantly, what kind of lifestyle does she lead? If she is athletic or works in the outdoors, she might want a simple ring. On the other hand, if she prefers the indoors and works in an office, she might want something fancier.

To narrow down your selections, consider the 4Cs of the diamond as well as the setting. Platinum prongs are stronger than gold ones. The band of the ring should also be strong. You don't want it to get bent out of shape the first day your fiancée wears it.

Once you've decided on two or three ring styles, visit several jewelers and compare prices. Then take your fiancée's tastes into consideration and choose the one that will best fit your budget and her personality.

Before you know it, you'll have a ring in your pocket and you'll be all set to propose.

Capturing The Moment

By Andrew McGlothlen

Getting married is one of the most cherished memories in a person's life. However, as psychologists have discovered, memory can be unreliable—especially in an emotional setting such as a wedding. How do you ensure that your wedding is captured perfectly for you to remember?

For starters, you can hire professionals, friends or family members to film your wedding, including behind-the-scenes footage. Although you may have to pay less for their services, amateurs usually do not have the proper equipment, and therefore, may need to be closer to the action. Depending on their equipment, you may have to pay more for the services of professionals. Most, however, have more experience with angles, zoom and sound

capabilities that make them worth the extra money.

In addition to filming, you probably have several photos in mind that you would like to be taken at your wedding. During the ceremony, the best shots include the bride coming down the aisle, the exchange of rings, the kiss and the newly married couple exiting the scene for the reception. At the reception the key shots are the couple cutting the cake, the exchange of cake, the best man's toast and the newlyweds dancing with their parents. Either before or after the reception, you may also want a series of photos with your parents, the wedding party and other close relatives, including grandparents, siblings and possibly even children.

For more random shots at the reception, consider putting disposable cameras at the guests' disposal. This will allow you to see more of the reception than you could at the time. Because you never know what you'll find, photos developed from the disposable cameras can

be a nice surprise to come back to after a honeymoon. If there are any shots left on the cameras, you can use them to take pictures of your new abode for another photo album.

Between the professional photographers and the dozens of amateurs helping to record your big day, it's hard to believe that a special moment could be forgotten, but many leading up to the big day are. Events, like the rehearsal, the bridal shower and the bachelor party, are photographed little. All, however, make great preludes to the wedding section of a photo album.

From the photos to the video, what couple could forget the magic and excitement of their wedding day? At your one-year anniversary party when the top tier of cake is brought out to be eaten, perhaps the guests will be able to dine on a cake topped with a picture that they took themselves. If nothing else, you will never forget your wedding day—in spite of what psychologists say.



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Flowering Your Big Day

By Tresa Erickson

As you plan the floral arrangements for your wedding, you will be faced with many questions. What kind of bouquet will you carry? How many centerpieces will you need for the reception? What kind of boutonniere will your groom wear? These are just some of the issues you will have to discuss with your florist.

After you have selected the colors of your wedding, you can start thinking about the flowers. To get ideas, go to the library and check out some books on floral arranging, or look through some bridal magazines. Make photocopies or clip out pictures of arrangements you like. Collect them together with swatches of your wedding colors to give to the florist later.

In the floral world, flowers carry meaning. Tulips, for instance, symbolize love; daisies, innocence; and honeysuckle, generosity.

Ivy represents eternal fidelity, while ferns represent sincerity. Keep this in mind as you choose the flowers and greenery for the floral arrangements at your wedding. For a more complete list of meanings, conduct a search online.

Once you have a few ideas, consider whether you will use real or silk flowers. There are pros and cons to each. Real flowers smell wonderful, but they are less hardy and more expensive than silk flowers. To reduce costs, consider using flowers in season. Although they do not have a scent, silk flowers cost less and they can be displayed easier after your wedding.

No matter if you use real or silk flowers, the number and size of your floral arrangements, especially your bouquet, should fit your budget and your needs. Generally, the larger an arrangement, the more it costs. If you

have a small budget and need several pieces, you may have to choose smaller arrangements. As for your bridal bouquet, make sure you select a size that fits your stature. You don't want to be burdened with a huge bouquet that covers half of your dress.

Once you have an idea of the type, size and number of arrangements you will need, it's time to select a florist. Depending on your needs, it could be a crafty friend or a flower shop down the street. The person you choose should be creative. They should also be reliable and flexible in case you need to make changes to your arrangements later. No matter whom you choose, make sure you are comfortable with their services. Then give them your ideas and color swatches, and watch them create some beautiful floral arrangements for your wedding.

Wedding Weather Disasters

(ARA) - We've all heard the horror stories. Everyone knows someone who planned the perfect wedding for months only to have it derailed by events beyond anyone's control. Mother Nature may not cooperate on the wedding day, causing havoc and financial headaches.

"This time of year ice storms are causing power outages and highway closures along the east coast and center states. You never know what can happen," says Robert Nuccio, exclusive program administrator for the Fireman's Fund wedding insurance program. According to Nuccio, there is something you can do to protect yourself and your investment -- it's called wedding insurance. But if you don't live in an earthquake zone and you aren't getting married during blizzard season, do you really need it?

Here are just some of the situations encountered by Nuccio.

The day before the wedding a pregnant tabby cat settled onto the

wedding gown and gave birth to a litter of kittens. The company found a seamstress to make a new dress overnight, and the \$1,000 cost was covered.

Another situation involved a bride's younger brother. On the morning of the wedding, the three-year-old decided the all-white wedding dress seemed too plain. He got out his finger paints and created a masterpiece -- on the dress. The wedding had to be cancelled and rescheduled and the cost was covered.

On another occasion, neither the bride and groom nor any of the guests were able to get to a wedding in Dallas. The secret service had closed most of the downtown area because the president was in town. The event had to be rescheduled, and costs for a completely new wedding were covered.

Nuccio has the following advice for couples planning weddings and considering wedding insurance: More and more event facilities,

(Continued on Page 7)

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Getting The Most Out Of The Wedding

By Andrew McGlothlen

After returning from your honeymoon, you begin to open your wedding gifts with your new husband. "How did we get such an unusual assortment?" you wonder. "I thought they would know what we needed." If it's not unusual gifts, it's repeat gifts. Seriously, who needs four microwaves? Where did you go wrong? You didn't utilize your resources—gift registries.

Gift registries are offered at more stores every year. Where should couples register? In the opinion of those who have come before, couples should register at several different stores. The gifts they put on their list should vary from low-priced items like a nice towel set for the guest bathroom to some rather high-priced items. It doesn't hurt to put high-priced items on registries, but a couple shouldn't expect guests to be able to afford them. It's quite possible, though, that several guests will "go in together" on a larger gift. The

variety of stores and prices should accommodate all guests but still allow a couple to begin to fill their new living space.

What should couples register in their registry? On the practical end, it's appropriate for couples to register for appliances from toasters to microwaves to refrigerators. Electronics of all types from DVD players to surround sound stereo systems may also make it onto the list. China, crystal and fine flatware tend to be more classic requests, though still found quite often on registry lists. Pots, pans, strainers and the like are also fairly common requests from a couple trying to fill a kitchen.

One of the best parts of modern gift registries is the ease of actually registering. Many places allow couples to come into the store, fill out as little information as the wedding name and the date, and then take a scan gun and point and shoot at anything they'd like. While couples should have fun with this, they should not shoot

just anything because when that complete set of seasons of The Simpsons on DVD shows up, the amusement may be lost on the couple that was just having fun. However, this approach does make it much easier in that a couple can point and shoot at their own pace, and they are usually allowed to return and add more to their list as they think of it. Smaller stores may use the handwritten approach, but it's still a small price to pay to ensure that only one microwave shows up in the gift pile.

With all this in mind, couples should really just enjoy the experience. It's not every day that they are able to request everything their hearts desire and actually receive some of it. However, not every guest will be comfortable purchasing from a gift registry, and couples should be prepared for that with a card tray. When used properly, though, registries will help many guests save a lot of shopping time and allow a couple to fill their new abode almost effortlessly.

The Makings For A Wonderful Sendoff

By Tresa Erickson

The tradition of throwing rice at a newly married couple has been around since ancient times. Many ancient civilizations believed that by throwing rice the fertility of the seeds would be passed on to the couple. They also believed that rice could ward off evil spirits. The tradition continued well into the 20th century until a rumor began circulating that rice was harmful to birds.

According to several sources, the rumor was started, or at least propelled, by an Ann Landers column in the '60s. Landers advised

rose petals be thrown at weddings instead of rice because it was bad for the birds. The rumor soon evolved, and many believed that once eaten, rice would expand in birds' stomachs to the point that they would explode. It became customary to throw birdseed rather than rice.

There have been no proven cases of birds dying from the consumption of rice. According to several experts, rice, whether milled or wild, does not harm birds. Many migrating birds, in fact, eat from the rice fields in the South to gain strength for their return to the North.

So throwing rice at weddings does not pose a threat to the birds...but it can harm guests. When tossed onto a sidewalk or on steps, it puts anyone walking on that surface at risk of falling. In addition, rice can be difficult to sweep up. Many organizations and churches prohibit the throwing of it because it is so messy.

If you can't throw rice, what can you throw? You could try confetti. But that too is messy and may not be allowed. You could also throw birdseed. But again depending where it is thrown it could pose a danger to your guests.

A current trend that seems to satisfy everyone is bubbles. Not only are they less messy, but they offer

a unique photo opportunity. If you go this route, make sure you purchase a bubble solution made specifically for weddings. Most come in white half-ounce bottles with wands attached to the caps, and they are free of dyes found in normal solutions that stain fabrics like silk.

If bubbles don't appeal to you, you could try balloons. What better way to end your ceremony than to have each of your guests release a colorful balloon? The sky will be filled with color as you and your groom exit the building as husband and wife.

If you are an animal lover, you may want doves to be released, or if the temperatures are warm, butterflies. Doves have long been a symbol of peace and love. What couple doesn't hope for that? Butterflies also make for a lovely sendoff. Imagine hundreds of them fluttering from your guests' hands as you leave for your honeymoon.

Maybe you want bubbles. Maybe you want butterflies. Maybe you still want rice. Before you decide, contact the site where you are holding the wedding and find out if there are any restrictions. More importantly, take the well-being of your guests into consideration and arrange for whatever you've decided to be carried out safely.

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Wedding Cakes With Style

By Tresa Erickson

When you think of a wedding cake, what comes to mind? Three tiers of vanilla cake sandwiched between plastic columns? Lots of thick, white frosting and pale pink or yellow rosettes? A plastic bride and groom sitting on top? For many of us, this is the description of a traditional wedding cake, but it doesn't have to be. Today more and more couples are choosing a wedding cake with a bit more style.

Wedding cakes today not only look good, but taste good. They also come in a variety of shapes, sizes and flavors. From raspberry vanilla cheesecake to chocolate mint sponge cake, you can have just about any kind of wedding cake you want. Some of the current trends include:

- **Multi-flavored cakes.** If you have several favorite flavors and you are having a hard time selecting just one for your cake, this option is ideal. Try choosing a different flavor for each layer of your cake. Or ask the baker to insert a cream filling in one of the layers and preserves in the other. You can even choose a different flavor of icing, like white chocolate or strawberry cream.

- **Unusually shaped cakes.** Oval, square, rectangular, hexagonal—you name it, and you can

have it. You can also mix and match shapes and sizes to create an unusual cake. For a modern cake, select oval layers for the bottom and middle, and a heart layer for the top. Follow a current trend and choose a large square for the bottom, a slightly smaller square for the middle and an even smaller square for the top. Then ask the baker to stack them on top of each other, and voila...a stack of presents. After they are iced, the presents can be tied together with a bow of sugared fruit.

- **Colored cakes.** The icing on your cake does not have to be white, nor do the rosettes have to be pastel. You can have chocolate icing with red rosettes, or vanilla icing with a touch of lemon and tiny purple rosebuds. You can even match the colors of the icing on your cake to the colors of your flowers, bridesmaids' dresses or decorations at the reception. Just make sure you take a color swatch to your baker.

- **Designer cakes.** Wedding cakes don't have to be plain. Add a unique touch to your cake with fresh fruit or flowers. For a stunning look, ask the baker to put a single rose on top or a cascade of lilies down the side. If you prefer something a bit sweeter, toss on some frosted nuts or chocolate candies. Try something different

and bring in a photo of your gown and have the baker copy the pattern onto your cake.

- **Personalized cakes.** Feeling sentimental? Find a photo of your parents' or grandparents' wedding cake and have the baker copy it. Then serve the first slices to your parents or grandparents at the reception. If you have extra layer cakes, find good photos of you and your fiancé, and have them transferred to the cakes. Choose an unusual topper, like two plastic gold wedding rings, or have your and your groom's initials intertwined in icing.

The styles and choices of wedding cakes today are endless. You can have just about any flavor and size of cake you want, and you can customize it to meet your needs and wants. If you are having an intergalactic wedding, you can order a cake that looks like a spaceship. If you are having a Christmas wedding with a French flair, you can order a traditional French holiday cake *bûche de noël*.

If you would like to follow the Bermuda wedding cake tradition, you can order a tiny tree for your cake topper and then plant it in your yard to signify the growth of your marriage. With just a little creativity, you can have the wedding cake of your dreams.



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Wedding Weather Disasters

(Continued from Page 3)

including hotels, restaurants, historic homes and country clubs, are requiring proof of liability insurance from the hosts of an event. Those reserving space for weddings or any large celebration should read the contract in advance.

The facility staff may neglect to mention that a certificate of insurance is required until a week or two before a function. Nuccio recommends taking care of this in advance; but if time is short, wedding insurance can be purchased over the phone.

Financial security is another major reason to consider wedding insurance.

The average cost for a wedding these days is considerable, usually around \$20,000. From the non-refundable deposits for the facility, to commitments to caterers, florists and photographers, not to mention wedding attire, there are thousands of dollars at stake. If a wedding is cancelled at the last minute, many of the bills will still have to be paid. "Think of it this way," explains Nuccio, "could you afford to put on the wedding a second time?"

There could be a weather or emergency situation that could cause a cancellation. "It wouldn't necessarily have to be a tornado or snow storm, says Nuccio. "It could be an accident on the highway that prevents people from

getting to the ceremony; or an airport closure in another part of the country that prevents the groom from arriving on time."

A wedding insurance policy starts at \$195, and depending on the options selected by the purchaser, it will cover cancellation and postponement, additional expenses (such as if the caterer doesn't show up and you have to pay double to another one at the last minute), special attire in case anything happens to the dress or tuxedos, photography in case something happens to the pictures, and rental property in case of damage during a wedding

party.

Almost the only contingency not covered is a change of heart. Nuccio calls it "the cold-feet exclusion."

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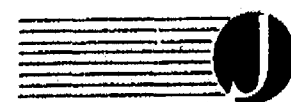
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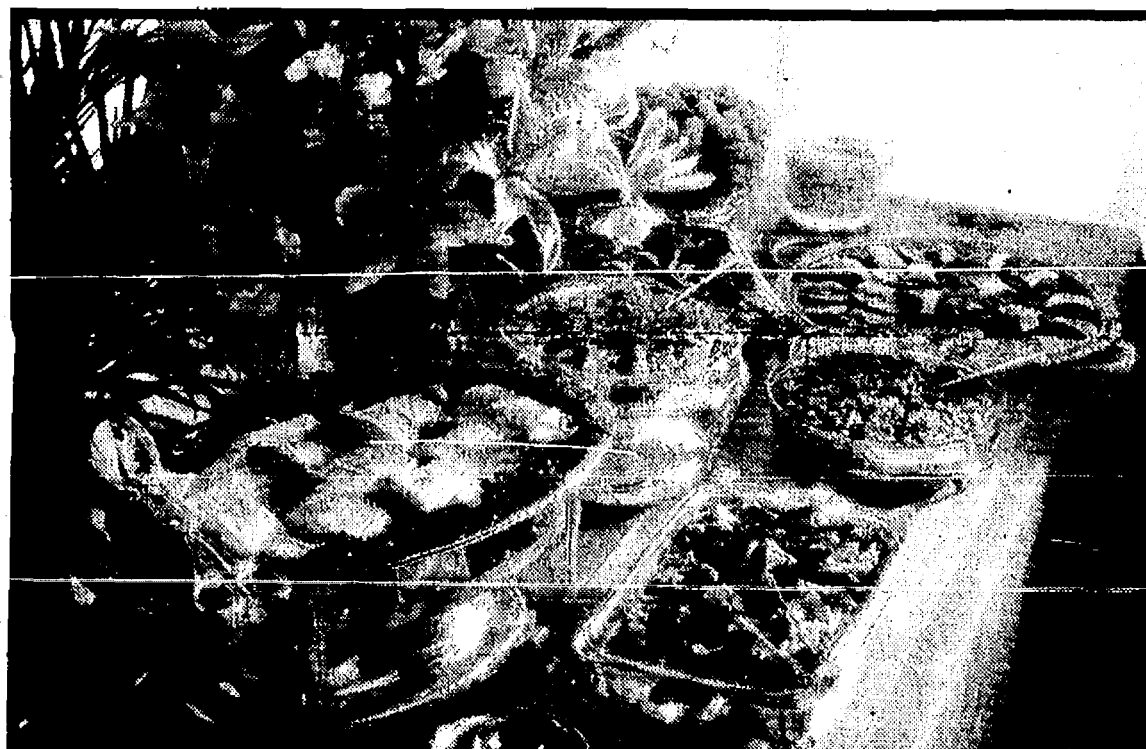
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Madsens named Citizens of the Year

► Athena goes to McConnell; title company earns Silver Lining

by Cheryl Ruley
Staff Writer

The Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce held its Annual Awards Night last Thursday evening, during Business After Hours.

Co-sponsored by the Grayling Youth Booster Club and Milltown Title and Escrow, the January 23 event drew over 100 people to the Grayling Holiday Inn to see who would be named the 2002 Citizen of the Year, and recipients of the Athena and Silver Lining awards.

Following a brief presenta-

tions by the sponsors, the award ceremony began.

The 2002 Silver Lining Award, presented each year to a Chamber member business that has improved the appearance of its establishment, was awarded to the Crawford County Title Insurance Agency.

The agency's building on Burton Court has undergone extensive renovation, inside and out, including an upstairs addition. Company owner Mary Ann Ferrigan accepted the award from Chamber President Tim Zigila.

A committee of Grayling Promotional Association (GPA) members makes the decision each year from Silver Lining nominations received.

Continued on Page 14A
See "MADSENS NAMED..."



Photos by Cheryl Ruley

Chamber President Tim Zigila presents the 2002 Citizen of the Year award to lifelong Grayling residents, Skip and Gail Madsen, recognizing their many contributions to the community, especially beautification of the Grayling business area.

(Left) Owner and operator of Crawford County Title Insurance Agency, Mary Ann Ferrigan, accepts the 2002 Silver Lining Award from Chamber President Tim Zigila. The company was recognized for its recent building renovation and improvements. (Right) Taken quite by surprise, Lynn Porritt-McConnell shared a few words with the audience of more than 100 after being presented with the 2002 Athena Award, recognizing her for her leadership, mentoring and community service.



County property may be sold

by Cheryl Ruley
Staff Writer

The Crawford County Board of Commissioners is considering the sale of the County Courthouse complex and its property to local developer and radio station owner, Bill Gannon, in order to place the "prime riverfront property" back on the tax rolls.

At the Board's January 15 regular meeting, County Chair Lynnette Coriow appointed several people to an exploratory committee now tasked with learning the feasibility of such a move. The committee met for the first time January 22 for organizational purposes and will meet several times in the near future, then report back to the Commissioners.

Citizens and officials appointed to the committee are: County Controller Paul Compo (serving as chairman), Assistant Court Administrator Tom Haskel, Sheriff Kirk Wakefield, County Clerk/Register of Deeds Sandra Moore, District #5 Crawford County Commissioner Dave Stephenson, Crawford County Building Authority members Neal Michal and Jack Mahank, MSU Extension's Steve Foust, businessmen George Stancil and Don Schans, and former Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce Director, Lynn McConnell.

Continued on Page 14A
See "COUNTY..."

Crawford COA institutes new money-saving measures

by Susan Warrington
Staff Writer

Until they have a complete understanding of its financial picture, the Crawford County Commission on Aging (COA) Board is continuing to tighten its belt.

The Board has agreed to a hiring freeze and will not replace personnel who leave due to retirement or other reasons. Additionally, the board will not enter into any agreements with outside agencies for the time being.

The COA has also opted to change their monthly bookkeeping procedures to a monthly accrual method, which should prevent shortfalls such as those experienced at the end of the last fiscal year.

The accounting method change coincides with a change in accountants used by the COA. Mickey Perez replaced Bill Holmes as the accountant for the COA as of January 1.

Give an old flag a proper retirement

by Cheryl Ruley
Staff Writer

Passersby of the Crawford County Historic Museum may be wondering what the purpose is of that funny looking box, with the handled door, sitting just outside the museum door.

Well, the story goes that a few months back, Grayling resident and Dial-A-Ride bus driver, Jim Carmean, noticed once again how many torn and tattered, worn and weary, many American flags have become in the neighborhood.

Carmean makes a lot of trips around town, and beyond, in the course of each work day and has become quite frustrated at the mix of apparent patriotism and neglect throughout the community.

"I am so glad to see so many people flying the flag," he said. "But if we're going to fly the flag, we need to do it right and with the respect our colors

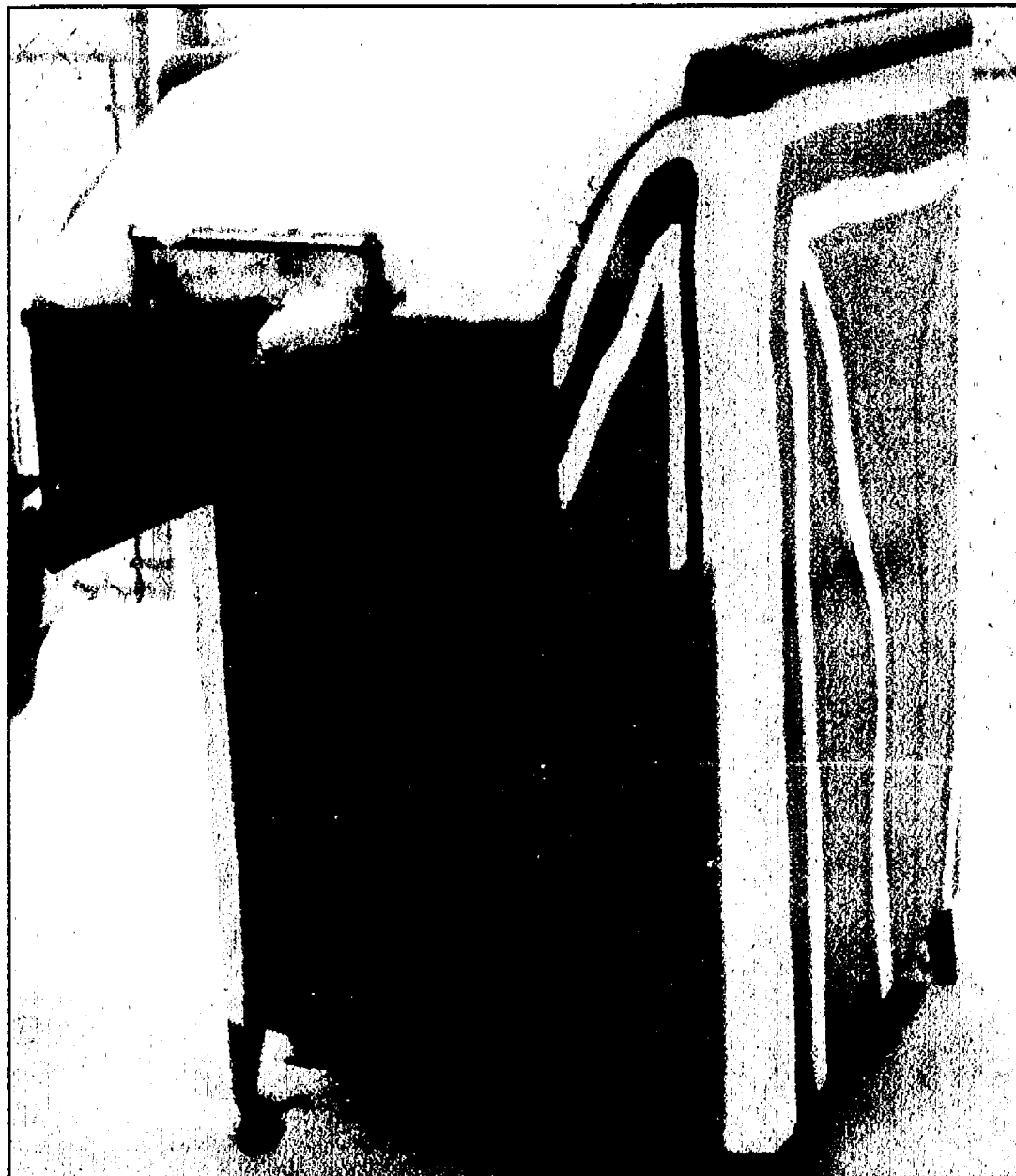
deserve."

In an effort to get more people to replace their worn out flags and have them disposed of according to proper American flag etiquette, Carmean managed to acquire the old night book deposit box from the Frederic Community Library for use as a collection box for retired flags.

"I urge everyone to take a look at their flags," Carmean said. "If they are worn, faded or tattered in any way, it's time to replace them."

And, what does one do with an old flag? Place it in a paper bag and deposit it into the new collection box at the museum on Michigan Avenue in Grayling. Come next flag day, June 14, the American Legion will hold its annual flag burning ceremony, where all the old flags will be officially retired.

Look for a second flag collection box to be installed at the American Legion on James Street this spring.



If your American flag is looking a bit beat up, replace it. Then deposit the old flag in a brown paper bag in this new collection box located near the Crawford County Historic Museum in Grayling.

Photo by Cheryl Ruley

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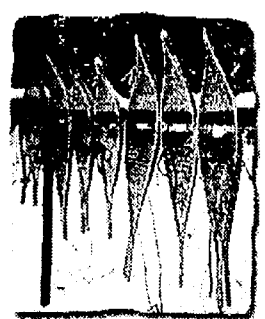
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Nuclear watchdogs attend township meeting; advise Maple Forest to be vigilant, learn more

by Susan Warrington
Staff Writer

The most recent Maple Forest Township Board meeting attracted a crowd of approximately 50 people to learn more about the possibility that building debris, from the dismantling of the decommissioned Big Rock Nuclear Power Plant in Charlevoix, will be deposited into the Waters landfill.

Consumers Energy, which owns the now idle plant, has plans to take radioactive materials (anything with a radiation level of 5 picocuries per gram or more) to South Carolina, Utah and Nevada and wants to bring the building materials that are claimed to be non-radioactive to the Waters landfill.

Kurt Haas, Site General Manager of Big Rock, said they plan to bring clean demolition material which will have no effect on the health and safety of people in the area. He said it is "safe for you, safe for your neighbors, safe now, safe 100 years from now."

Haas said the company would have preferred to place the debris in the Charlevoix landfill, but it is now closed and the Waters landfill is the next closest licensed to accept construction debris. He explained safety is the first priority and Consumers is constantly looking for ways to do the job better. In fact, the power company is willing to pay for third party oversight of the disposal and will

financially assist Waste Management Inc., who operates the Waters landfill, with the purchase of radiation detection devices for the landfill.

Tracy Goble, an environmental engineer for Consumers Energy, said the 85.5 million pounds of debris from Big Rock would only be two percent of the annual intake at the landfill. She also said the maximum dosage of radiation from the material would be equivalent to the amount given off by one smoke detector.

Michael Keegan from the Coalition for a Nuclear Free Great Lakes, Diane D'Arrigo, the Radioactive Waste Project Director for the Nuclear Information and Resource Service in Washington D.C. and Dr. Marvin Resnikoff, a nuclear physicist from Radioactive Waste Management Associates in New York, were at the township meeting and raised concerns about accepting waste from Big Rock.

Their major point to the local people was to be very vigilant and learn as much as possible before accepting any waste. All three of them said the board should be aware that if the landfill accepts any radioactive material, it opens the way for materials from other nuclear reactors and material that may be more radioactive to be dumped at Waters.

Keegan, D'Arrigo and Resnikoff, all nuclear watchdogs, pointed out the radiation

Consumers Energy and Waste Management will be testing for is not the only type that may be given off by materials dumped in Waters. Resnikoff said if the waste is accepted, the material should be checked for radiation at Big Rock before it is loaded so that material contaminated by radioactivity is not buried in the middle of the load where its effect on detectors would be diluted by the mass of material.

Resnikoff said there was no hurry to make a decision about accepting the waste because all of the information is not yet available. In mid-March a report will be published which will show how much radiation there is in various parts of the plant. He suggested that no decisions should be made before this information is available.

After presentations by both sides, township board members asked questions of the three visitors. Sandra Baynham asked what they would be accepting, radiation free material (material that has no more radiation than materials that have not been associated with a nuclear reactor) or material that had up to five picocuries per gram?

Ken Pillagi, Health Physics and Environmental Services Manager said there has been years of work prior to this point removing paint and scraping the concrete to remove layers that might be contaminated by radiation so the rub-

ble is now clean.

When asked again, Pillagi said there might be some radiation associated with the waste. Township Supervisor Mark Kniss asked whether Consumers would send material up to 4.9 picocuries per gram to the site, Pillagi said he couldn't promise the company wouldn't.

Consumers has budgeted in excess of \$100 million for the cost of decommissioning Big Rock, 15 percent of which is held in reserve for contingencies or unforeseen expenses. Kniss asked if they couldn't spend some of the contingency money and send the debris elsewhere. Haas replied the Waters landfill was established for the purpose of accepting demolition debris. He said, "why should we send it elsewhere and burden others?"

Bob Skoweronek, of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), who has been working with Consumers on environment issues regarding the decommissioning, said the original estimation of radioactivity in the material would be less than one picocurie per gram. He said he did not know whether the new upper limit suggested of five picocuries per gram was commonplace. Kniss asked him to check on this and to find out if accepting rubble from a nuclear plant would be setting a precedent for some years to come.

GHS MEAP scores generally better than state average

by Susan Warrington
Staff Writer

The results of Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) tests for the last three years were presented to the Crawford AuSable School District board at their January meeting. Students who scored well on the tests were endorsed which means they have met or exceeded the basic knowledge and understanding required by the state. Those who scored at the two highest levels in math,

reading, science and writing earned Merit Scholarships.

Grayling High School endorsement results were compared to both the state and to the other schools in the COOR district. The students of Grayling High School have a higher percentage of students endorsed for the last three years in math, reading, and science than both the state and other COOR schools.

The writing scores have dropped to one percent below the state average of 89. The school

board was told by Assistant High School Principal Melissa Stone that the emphasis this year is on reading and writing for the entire district. The staff will work hard until the scores exceed the state average.

The endorsement level on the social studies test has dropped to seven percentage points below the state average. This area is the most recent one to be tested by MEAP and the test has been changing yearly. The district is working to exceed the state level in this area also.

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National Guard called to active duty

► Camp Grayling to serve as processing center for some called to duty

LANSING — A number of Army National Guard soldiers, from across the state, are being called to active duty and are expected to serve for up to one year.

Approximately 180 Army National Guard soldiers from Kingsford, Menominee, and Pontiac received word they will mobilize together as the 1775th Military Police Company. The MP's arrived January 20-21 at the Pontiac armory for initial in-processing. They are expected to depart for their mobilization station at Fort McCoy, WI sometime next week. Their final destination has not yet been confirmed.

Guardsmen from Sault Ste.

Marie, Midland, and Jackson are also in the process of receiving active duty orders.

The 1437th Engineer Company, Sault Ste. Marie, reported to Camp Grayling on January 22 for initial processing. They were then scheduled to depart for their mobilization station at Fort Campbell, KY on January 26. This call-up also involves approximately 180 Michigan Guard soldiers. Their final destination also has not yet been confirmed.

The 1460th Transportation Company from Midland, and additional soldiers from the 1461st Transportation Company from Jackson, departed for initial in-processing at Camp Grayling on January 22. The approximately 140 soldiers are then expected to depart for their mobilization station at Fort McCoy on January 26. Their final destination has not yet been confirmed.

On Monday, January 27, approximately 70 soldiers from the 126th Armor Battalion, headquartered in Wyoming, MI, with units stationed in Manistee, Cadillac, South Haven, Dowagiac and Three Rivers, reported to Fort Custer, near Battle Creek, for four days of in-processing. From there, they report to the Armor Battalion's headquarters for a February 1 departure to their mobilization station at Fort McCoy.

After about one week of in-processing and additional training, the 126th will report to Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Mount Clemens, and the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base to provide security there.

They are replacing soldiers and airmen, many of whom have been on duty for more than a year.

Meanwhile, about 300 sol-

diers from the 144th Military Police Company from Owosso and the 1776th Military Police Company from Taylor, are expected to return home in mid-February after providing security at military installations in the Washington, D.C. area for one year.

One other Military Police unit, the 210th Military Police Battalion, also from Taylor, with approximately 60 soldiers, is nearly six months into their expected one year deployment in Washington, D.C.

The 745th Ordnance Company from Grayling was called up in December to back-fill active duty Army soldiers at Fort Hood, TX who have been deployed. The 22-member unit is expected to be deployed for one year.

The Michigan Army National Guard has approximately 8,800 members in 119 units across the state.

Help Center plans annual Paper Drive

► Local food pantry provides more than just food to needy

by Cheryl Ruley
Staff Writer

February is Paper Drive Month at the Crawford County Community Christian Help Center, but other types of donations are also needed.

The Help Center serves as the

local food pantry and is located on Huron Street in Grayling, adjacent to the Family Independence Agency offices.

Because many Help Center clients run short on paper supplies, such as toilet paper, facial tissue and paper towels, every year a Paper Drive is held to help stock the Center's shelves.

Help Center Director, Gerry Schroeder said, because of the poor economy, combined with locally high unemployment, her organization has been extra busy

and donations are needed.

Besides paper products, the Help Center has also seen a demand for canned meats, such as chicken, ham, corned beef and beef hash, chili with meat, and beef stew.

Those who are employed, but who are on a strict budget, are having a hard time affording the increasing gasoline prices to get to work. Schroeder suggests that anyone who can help by buying a gasoline coupon book (available at most service sta-

tions) and then donating it to the Help Center for distribution, can really help someone out in a pinch.

Schroeder said the gas coupons will also be distributed to those who need to get to a job interview or a doctor's appointment.

For more information, call the Help Center at 348-6046. To make a monetary donation by mail, send check or money order to CCCCHC, P.O. Box 1115, Grayling, MI 49738.

Creating civic-minded citizens is goal of GHS program

by Susan Warrington
Staff Writer

In an effort to create more well-rounded, civic minded citizens, students enrolled at Grayling High School (GHS) are required to complete 40 hours of community service in order to graduate.

Community service is defined as any volunteer activity that benefits the community. Examples are shoveling sidewalks for senior citizens or helping with marathons at Hanson Hills; helping out at the library, animal shelter, nursing home or even volunteering at the AuSable River Canoe Marathon.

Ideally, GHS students should plan on serving an average five hours of community service per semester to reach the 40-hour goal. For those students who transfer into the school after the beginning of their freshman or ninth grade year, the number of hours to be served is pro-rated accordingly.

The 40-hour requirement was instituted approximately five years ago when the Crawford AuSable Schools Board of Education adopted the

concept presented by a community group. GHS Principal Brenda Hedden said it is important to educate the person to become an effective citizen, parent, and successful member of the community. "This program helps the student become more aware of the needs of the community," Hedden explained.

The GHS Counseling Office monitors the community service hours for each student. Students also record the number of hours and type of volunteer work done in their portfolio. These portfolios can be used to show prospective employers and/or universities the abilities/activities of the student, in addition to the transcript of their grades.

If an individual or organization in the community needs volunteer help, they should call the counseling office at 344-3512. Needs are then broadcasted in the daily announcements at GHS to make students aware of community service opportunities.

Hedden said several students graduate with more than 300 hours of community service.

\$8 million earmarked for state's heat fund

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has released \$8,401,042 in emergency funds to the state of Michigan under the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Congressman Bart Stupak (D-Menominee) reported on January 24.

These funds are in addition to the \$40.8 million released earlier this month to Michigan for energy assistance to low-income households.

LIHEAP helps eligible families pay for home heating fuel and weatherization to insulate homes. Eligibility and benefit levels for Michigan recipients are determined by Michigan's Family Independence Agency.

"The release of these emergency funds comes as a welcome relief for many Michigan families who find themselves facing increased heating costs due to the recent bitterly cold weather," Stupak said.

On December 20, 2002, Stupak wrote to President Bush, urging immediate release of

\$300 million in emergency LIHEAP funds. The present release of funds totals \$200 million nationwide.

"No one should ever be forced to make a decision between heat and food, or heat and housing, or heat and health care," Stupak wrote the president.

The Senate recently voted to increase funding for LIHEAP in Fiscal Year 2003, from the administration's budget request. "I have fought for years against budget cuts to this very important program. Without it, some men, women and children would be literally left in the cold," Stupak said.

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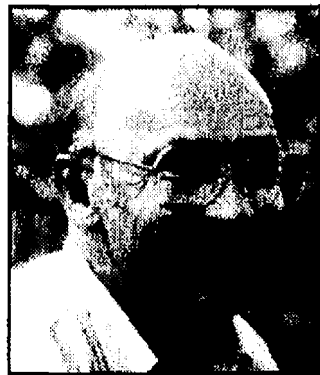
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OPINIONS



ALMANACK

by Richard Milliman

It's back to the farm for Dick Posthumus

WHATEVER HAPPENED to Dick Posthumus?

You remember him, of course. He was once Michigan's lieutenant governor and the Republican candidate for governor last November, who lost to Democrat Jennifer Granholm, so she could become Michigan's first female governor.

Everyone agreed Dick Posthumus is a nice guy. Everyone agreed he was fully qualified by training, experience and temperament to be governor. And except for his most ardent supporters, nearly everyone agreed from the outset of the 2002 campaign for governor that he would lose to Jennifer Granholm.

He came a lot closer to winning than most people thought he would. In fact, Ms. Granholm was the only top Democrat to win a statewide race. So how come she won and he didn't?

In retrospect, according to recent public comment, he figures it came down to money: If only he had another million

or so at his command late in the campaign, he might have won.

Mr. Posthumus also acknowledged a couple of other factors working against him. Some voters felt it was time for a change of parties after 12 years of fellow Republican John Engler in the governor's office. Many voters wanted to help make history by electing Michigan's first woman governor, especially an articulate and glamorous one like Jennifer Granholm.

HE IS PROBABLY right on all counts.

It's not so much that Dick Posthumus lost the race for governor...it's more that Jennifer Granholm won it. There's a difference, and with no sour grapes apparent in his analysis, Mr. Posthumus seems right on target.

As for his future, he says it's back to the farm near Alto for Dick Posthumus, Michigan citizen. Farming has always been his first love, he indicates, as well

as his livelihood.

He may dabble here and there around the fringes of politics, he indicates, maybe something like working on public policy in one way or another.

Following World War I, a popular song about American soldiers who had served in France asked: "How're you going to keep them, down on the farm, after they've seen Paroo?"

That sentiment applies to Dick Posthumus, too. Is he going to be content down on the farm, after he's shared the bright lights and infectious lure of being on the inside of everything that goes on at the state capital for the last 20 years?

Dick Posthumus was elected four times to the state senate, once as lieutenant governor. He was Republican leader of the senate for eight years. He's been in the middle of everything that's happened in Michigan state government for two decades.

Is running the farm in Alto going to

pale beside the allure of running the government in Lansing?

MOST LEGISLATORS upon leaving office grasp at almost any way to hang around the capitol or grab some other public office. Dick Posthumus may prove to be the true exception.

How long will his resolve last? At 52, he's young enough to engage several more challenges in the public arena.

If Dick Posthumus can hold on to his decision to trade his political robes for his farmer's overalls, more power to him.

But if he does, someone should erect a statue to him, and place it right beside the statue of Austin Blair, Michigan's Civil War governor, which stands at the entrance to the capitol.

It would be better to be remembered in a trivia quiz on Michigan politics and government as the politician who went home and stayed there, rather than as the losing candidate to Michigan's first

woman governor.

JUST SHOW UP -- One Grand Rapids school came up with a new idea in grading.

Students would have their grades raised for good attendance.

Someone has said that a basic ingredient of success is just showing up, and I heartily agree.

You can't learn anything in school or anywhere else if you're not there on a regular basis.

Every boss treasures employees who show up for work when they are supposed to be there. It's called reliability, and it's worth a lot.

Maybe it would be good to value students' reliability, too.

Richard Milliman is a veteran newspaperman, and a contributing columnist to several Michigan newspapers.

EDITOR

Keeping school played part in consolidation agreement

To the editor,

I'm just writing a little note to express my continued support for the Crawford AuSable School District (CASD).

I have worked toward having CASD be one school district with several buildings. When the

school district was consolidated in the 60s, it was with the agreement that Frederic would always have its own elementary school. There is no way a consolidation issue would have ever passed in Frederic without our elementary school.

I am in the sixth generation of my family to have lived in Crawford County and we have always been staunch supporters of public education and staunch supporters of what is best for our children.

I believe the current actions and inactions by the administration (and the board?) are harmful to the district as a whole and especially the children. I believe in a school district such as ours, with several small communities and three separate elementary schools, budget discussions about the cost of education of students should be about the cost of students in the district, not about how much more it costs in one building or another used as an excuse to close a school.

By allowing this type of discussion, divisions within the school district are created that are far easier to open than they are to heal.

A big disappointment with this issue is that we worked really hard as a community to modernize and expand our facilities throughout the district for the good of all students in the district. We in the old Frederic school district part of CASD were again promised we would keep our elementary with the expansion of the elementary schools in Grayling. (A board resolution copy is enclosed as a reminder.)

Perhaps the biggest disap-

pointment with the current situation is that, as a board member, not only did I work (not without huge help and support) for the passage of the last couple of millage votes, but we also worked as a board to reduce class size (especially early elementary) because we believed this is important in development and early education.

My disappointment comes from the apparent lack of support for a school that could be used to set a shining example of the potential of small classes and small working units to the quality of education of our elementary schools. We have been told for years (all of my life) by education professionals and experts that smaller class sizes, strong principals, and parental involvement are the keys to successful elementary schools. We are proud of the quality of people and the overall success of people who are Frederic alumni.

I want you to know that I support the CASD, and I support in the strongest fashion possible keeping Frederic Elementary open and providing quality elementary education in our small town setting.

Please let us know what we can do to help you keep this fine institution an example of the good things that can come from CASD.

Lewis Madill
Frederic

Where is the heart?

To the editor,

The heart is truly a wonderful organ. Its constant and strong beating provides nourishment to the whole body, and allows for the whole body's growth and well-being.

If anything happens to hurt or limit the heart's ability to function properly, the whole body is affected. A dysfunction spreads throughout its physical and emotional counterparts.

A town has a heart, too. It is its school.

The school nourishes the children of the town, helping to instill in them a love of learning which will sustain them throughout their lives. Parents and the whole school staff work together in close proximity to assure that this love develops to its fullest extent.

The school provides a safe haven for the town's young. It is a place close to home and parents, and close to friends and neighbors.

The school is a town center, drawing all together to participate in the learning process, to help solve problems, or just to enjoy good times.

When others see how healthy and happy the town is, how all the people pulsate with life, they, too, want to become members. What a great place to raise their own families.

We cannot let the heart be taken out of the town of Frederic. We must allow the townspeople to keep their precious school.

Patricia Finn
Grayling

School funding complaints should be aimed at Lansing

To the editor,

Hey, folks! Chill out! Consider this...

1. Kent Reynolds was supposed to be the cause of all your negative attitudes. Hey, didn't you notice, he's gone.

2. Our superintendent is intelligent, warm, outgoing, forthcoming, and so far, honest -- now what is your excuse?

3. School board members serve for four years at \$150 per year (might be a little more since I served), so I know that education and the ability to provide it to the best of their ability is their only agenda. They have nothing personal to gain.

4. For many years starting in the early 80s, for almost a decade when funds were low (due to lack of voter support for millage) Grayling children were sent up to Frederic by volunteering or lottery. Guess what? Things change and turn about. It's what works!

5. We moved here 27 years ago so our kids wouldn't be transported across inner city lines in a metropolitan area -- how can anyone compare that to what's happening in our district?

6. All of you are very articulate and verbal -- do you really

know where you are needed?

We are subject to the dictates of the State -- sorry to say. We need to spend our time, energy, letters and mouths at the state level -- it's called Lansing, governors and legislatures.

Unfortunately, education is not the most important issue in Michigan as well as most of the states in our country. Flexing your mouth in Crawford County cannot change what is -- we need to go further down the pike!

7. Even if we were so inclined to vote for the money to keep Frederic open, it's not possible by law. We can vote for anything else but operational monies. Bet you didn't know that?

8. Finally, it's time we hear from our good citizens who understand, even though they aren't happy with the situation, to speak up and support our administrators and board members who are desperately trying to make the best of a pretty sad state of affairs. It's called "no money" -- how many of us have been there in the last two years?

Pauline Petrosky
Grayling

Court, county employees should keep an open mind

To the editor,

Last week some (Crawford) County employees signed a letter (to the editor) concerning the court-funding dispute. They have some of their facts wrong, which is too bad.

I had asked to be at the meeting that led to the (writing of) letter. My intent in doing so was to have an opportunity for all to get both sides of the story. I was told that my presence was not welcomed.

Had I been at the meeting, I would have told my fellow public servants that a highly-paid consultant produced many of the so-called facts they are relying on. This consultant issued a report in 2002 that contains a lot of misinformation. I believe this misinformation has fueled animosity between different groups of public sector employees and our elected officials.

This misinformation campaign by an outsider has proven effective as evidenced by incorrect statements in last

week's letter. Unfortunately, it has also led Crawford County to continue spending many thousands of dollars for attorneys and this consultant to break agreements between the Court and its other funding units. Also, I believe these distortions negatively influenced our Commissioners to unfairly slash the Court's budget.

The final result of all this misinformation is that the matter is in court where, unfortunately, it now belongs. It will be resolved there. In the meantime, I ask that all fellow public sector employees keep an open mind, not be swayed by untruths and continue working for the common good.

Tom Haskel
Assistant Trial Court
Administrator,
46th Circuit Trial Court,
and Crawford County
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Check us out on the Internet at www.townnews.com/avalanche/

BRIEFS

Legion Auxiliary hosts Chili Cook-Off

As part of the Grayling Winter Fun Days, the American Legion Auxiliary will be hosting the annual Chili Cook-Off at Hanson Hills Recreation Area and Winter Sports Park on Sunday, February 9, from 12 noon to 3 p.m. The contest will be judged by the public by a donation of \$1 to sample and cast a vote. Everyone is invited to come and join in the fun. For more information or to enter the contest, call Wilma at 348-1369.

Eagles Auxiliary to elect delegates

The Grayling Eagles Auxiliary #3465 will hold elections on Thursday, February 6 for their delegates to go to the State Convention in June. Voting will take place at the Eagles Club, 602 Huron Street in Grayling, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. that day.

Church plans all-you-can-eat lunch

Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church, on Michigan Avenue in Grayling, invites everyone to a luncheon of hot and/or cold foods on Thursday, February 6, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Make your own sandwich, etc. Salad and dessert are included. Take-outs will be available. Cost is \$5 per person.

Class of 1978 planning reunion

The Grayling High School graduating class of 1978 is planning its 25 year Class Reunion, scheduled for July 12. Class members are being asked to send updated address information to Jodi Piper Potter, P.O. Box 208, Grayling, MI 49738 or call (989) 348-7517 for more information.

Local girls invited to enter American Girl contest

► Winners will appear on the cover of American Girl Magazine

The American Girl Program has been very popular locally. The Crawford County Library has put on a program for girls ages six to 13 for the last two years.

Because such great interest has been shown by local girls, the Crawford County Library system would like announce a contest offered by American Girl Magazine.

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of American Girl Magazine, Mattel, which owns the publication, is featuring a birthday theme in the January-February 2003 issue. This in turn will kick off a cover girl contest.

The contest will put up to three eight to 13 year old girls on the cover of the November-December 2003 issue. To enter, girls must choose one word -- either caring, fun, creative, loyal, generous, inventive or determined -- that best describes who they are, and then demonstrate that trait in an essay, video,

scrapbook or other creative project.

Finished entries must fit into an 11" x 13" x 2" box, or a smaller package or envelope. Contest deadline is February 28, 2003. Entries will not be returned. Send your entry along with your first and last name, address, birth date and recent school photo to: Cover Contest, American Girl, 8400 Fairway Place, Middleton, WI 53562.

The American Girl Program at the library has been well attended. In 2001, a summer program was offered, featuring craft projects and a contest to win an American Girl doll.

In 2002, the Devereaux Memorial Crawford County Library started the program off with tea at the Hanson House Bed and Breakfast. The girls then met at the library for sessions after school and were taught needlework crafts.

At the end of the session, there was another drawing, sponsored by the Friends of the Library, for one of the American Girl dolls.

The program for 2003 will be held in the fall. Watch for program dates to be posted at the library. For more information, call 348-9124.

Senior companions needed

The Senior Companion Program of Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency (NEMCSA) has openings for new volunteers.

Senior Companions can be found doing what friends do for friends -- assisting with grocery shopping, preparing and sharing a meal, providing transportation to a medical appointment, talking about old times and new challenges, and easing loneliness. By doing so, the homebound senior is able to maintain a higher level of independent living.

Senior Companions also provide respite services for families caring for a loved one at home.

Volunteers are age 60 or older, have an income of \$11,075 for a household of one or \$14,925 for a household of two. Adjustments of 15% are allowed if there are high medical expenses for the applicant.

There are no educational requirements. Direct benefits include a non-taxable stipend, monthly trainings, transportation

RAFFLE WINNERS

Grayling Youth Booster Club
Week ending January 26 - \$25 each: Oscar Dickinson, Jan Thorne, Rita Watts, and Bob Cinciala.

Coast Guard offers boating skills class

► Boaters, PWC operators urged to get certified before summer season

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will be teaching the Boating Skills and Seamanship class during the month of February.

The class will meet for six sessions every Tuesday and Thursday, beginning Thursday, February 6. Classes will be held at Roscommon High School and each session will begin at 6:30 p.m. Please note, the meeting place may change.

This class meets all state and federal requirements for boat and personal watercraft (PWC)

operation. The topics to be covered will be: state regulations and requirements; piloting your boat; rules and right of way; weather and boating; proper radio communication; lines and knots; and basic navigation.

The class size is limited to the first 15 people to register. There is a fee for text and materials only. Family discounts are available.

Boaters are urged to get their certification now and be ready before the upcoming boating season.

For more information or to register, call DSO 9th Central Region Coast Guard Auxiliary Public Education Master Instructor Don Warren at 821-9553, or Frank Homola at 821-7833.

Controlled Burn series begins February 5

► Book readings are free, open to the public; book signings follow

Gerry LaFemina, who built a creative writing program at Kirtland that became a national model, returns to Roscommon to anchor the Winter 2003 Controlled Burn Reading series.

A known writer in poetry and fiction circles, the former Kirtland instructor will read from his body of work on April 23. LaFemina was instrumental in building the nation's first associate's degree in fine arts/creative writing.

Peter Ho Davis, director of the Creative Writing Program at the University of Michigan and the author of the award-winning book, *The Ugliest House in the World*, opens the Winter series on February 5. He is the winner of the Oregon Book Award, the PEN/MacMillan Prize and the John Llewellyn Rhys Prize. Other works include *Equal Love*, and his stories and essays have appeared in *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Harpers*, *The Paris Review*, *Ploughshares*, *The Washington Post* and *The Chicago Tribune*.

Poet and Michigan native Kathleen McGookey, author of *Whatever Shines*, will read on March 12. Her work also has appeared in the anthologies, *The Party Train: A Collection of*

North American Prose Poetry, *The Best of the Prose Poem*, *An International Journal*, and *New Poems from the Third Coast: Contemporary Michigan Poetry*. She has been writer-in-residence at Interlochen Fine Arts Academy and has also taught at Western Michigan University and Hope College.

LaFemina's latest work, *Graffiti Heart*, won the 2001 Piccione/MAMMOTH Books Poetry Prize. His other books include *23 Below*, *Shattered Hours: Poems 1988-94*, and *Zarathustra in Love*. Other works have appeared in the anthologies *American Poetry: the Next Generation* and *New Poems from the Third Coast: Contemporary Michigan Poetry*. He now teaches at his alma mater, Sarah Lawrence College.

All Controlled Burn readings are free, open to the public and handicap accessible. A reception, with book signing, follows. All events are preceded by a 4 p.m. question-and-answer session. For more information, phone (989) 275-5000, Ext. 220 or visit online at www.kirtland.cc.mi.us/cburn/series.htm.

HONORS

Hope College

Hope College announced Lindsey Voelker of Grayling was named to the Dean's List for the first semester of the 2002-03 school year.

Michigan State University

Michigan State University announced that Brooke J. Ginther, Daniel R. Mead and Amanda S. Trudgeon all of Grayling earned a 3.5 or better grade point average for the fall semester of the 2002 school year.

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The Bible Speaks

Reagan's Fearlessness from God

Again we quote from Reagan's War, The Epic Story of His Forty-Year Struggle and Final Triumph Over Communism as written by Peter Schweizer. He said, "Reagan came to believe that his life had been spared by God for a divine purpose: defeating communism." God was the source of Reagan's courage. In 1946 he refused to secretly enter Warner Brothers studios during a communist led strike. He insisted on daily riding a bus directly through the picket line. He soon became known as "a tower of strength" and "fearless foe" against the communists.

Later as Governor of California he planned to meet with the board of regents at Berkeley over the violent protests led by Students for a democratic Society (SDS) and other war protestors. Again he refused to take a "circular route" to avoid the thousands of students. He entered the front door of University Hall as many jeered. Reagan said, "We have been picked at, sworn at, rioted against, and downgraded until we have a built-in guilt complex, and this has been compounded by the accusations of our sons and daughters who pride themselves on 'telling it like it is.' Reagan said of Americans, "No people in all history paid a higher price for freedom. And no people have done so much to advance the dignity of man." He said, "I think on our side is civilization and on the other side is the law of the jungle. We all have to

recognize that this country has been handed the responsibility, greater than any nation in history, to preserve some 6,000 years of civilization against the barbarians."

Soon death threats became a daily occurrence for Reagan. He was troubled that the country might be losing its sense of purpose, duty, and resolve. He had great respect for war heroes like his good friend Audie Murphy. Men like General George S. Patton inspired him. (Ol, Blood and Guts). Reagan said, "War very often brings out the noblest in men" Reagan believed Moscow was using "fear of the bomb" as a tool against us in an attempt to weaken our national courage.

Reagan is quoted as saying back in 1978, "My idea of American policy toward the Soviet Union is simple, and some would say simplistic. It is this: We win and they lose. What do you think of that?" Reagan believed in striving for peace, but "when somebody's out there killing your young men, you should never free the enemy of the concern he might have for what you might do." He believed the first law of war is to keep your enemy guessing what force you may use. (Pacifism only encourages military aggression.)

Reagan as President was presented with a continuity-of-government plan in case of a nuclear threat that would hustle him on a helicopter to a safe location. Reagan shook his head and

said, "No, I'm not going to do that. If it happens, God forbid, I'm not going anywhere. I'm staying here at my post." As Schweizer said later, "Reagan was determined to change the psychological climate of the Cold War, and he wanted to go beyond mere words. Reagan had learned God's secret of courage found in Prov. 29:25: "The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe." "It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man." (Psa. 118:8) We still need God's courage today. Pastor "B"

Please pray for God's blessings upon the ministry of this column and our church Website at <http://www.i2k.net/~cba>. We at Calvary Baptist Church invite you to learn more from the Bible about Jesus Christ. Join us in a verse by verse study of the gospel of John each Sunday.

The Bible Speaks is a paid advertisement and does not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Crawford County Avalanche.

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Boy Scouts reach out to serve more

► Campaign directed at civic, religious groups, meeting Feb. 5

In February, the Lake Huron Area Council Boy Scouts of America (BSA) will join with area religious and community organizations in a national effort to serve more youth with Scouting's character-building programs.

"The campaign, entitled, "Character Connections - Reaching Youth with Scouting," will run from January 1 through June 30 and will be supported by a national videoconference on February 5, hosted by the Lake Huron Council at Kirtland Community College at 12 noon in room 136 of the Administration Building. AuSable District (Crawford, Oscoda, Roscommon, Ogemaw, and Iosco counties) Scouting representatives will also take part in the meeting.

The videoconference will be co-hosted by the BSA's national president, Roy S. Roberts; national commissioner, Rick Cronk; and Chief Executive, Roy L. Williams; and will include commentaries, testimonials, and a special message from President George W. Bush.

This campaign is directed at religious and community organizations that share an interest with the BSA in serving youth and will emphasize the positive impact these organizations can have on their communities and neighborhoods through cooperative efforts with Scouting.

"Scouting is a way for community organizations to share their beliefs and values with young people and to build stronger ties with the youth members and families they serve," said Dale Holbrook, Scout Executive, Lake Huron Area Council. "Working together we can make a real difference in our communities and neighborhoods."

According to Chief Scout

Executive Williams, community organizations are the place to cultivate Scouting because those organizations know the importance of instilling character in youth.

"In order to recruit youth into the program, you have to have Scouting units for them to join," Williams said. "Our goal with Character Connections is to show religious and community organizations how Scouting can benefit them and encourage those organizations to adopt the Scouting program for their families."

"If they already have Scouting units, we want to encourage them to build on what they're doing to take full advantage of all the programs Scouting offers," Williams said.

Organizations interested in Scouting should contact AuSable District Executive Brad Murray at (989) 275-9871 or log on to: www.lhacbsa.org for more information.

HOMETOWN NEWS

50th Wedding Anniversary

Jim and Joyce Fox of Grayling celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on December 27, 2002.

They were married at the Mills Memorial Baptist Church in

Mayville.

Mr. and Mrs. Fox and their children celebrated the special occasion with an evening at the Rowe Inn in Ellsworth and a trip to Nashville, TN, where they enjoyed the Opryland Hotel and

other activities in Nashville.

The couple has three children: Gary and Denae Fox, Debra and Steven Walker, and Kaylynn Fox. They have three grandchildren: Stacie Walker, and Emily and Wesley Fox.



SUNDAY	Acts	9:26-43
MONDAY	Acts	8:26-40
TUESDAY	Mark	10:1-16
WEDNESDAY	Mark	10:17-31
THURSDAY	Mark	10:32-45
FRIDAY	Mark	10:46-52
SATURDAY	Deuteronomy	6:1-9

It's Time to Redecorate

"Honey, I think it's time for some changes. Let's redecorate the house. OK? Do you hear me? Honey?"

Just the mention of the word "redecorate" has struck many a spouse deaf and the process has blown budgets high in the sky, yet it's hard to deny the exhilarating effects of a change of scene. A kaleidoscope of color swatches, reams of wallpaper, and a megadose of television "instruction" can certainly trigger the adrenaline.

Yes, with time, money, and effort, we can change our surroundings...and that is fine. Yet what is the answer to happiness if the "new" becomes boring once more. Perhaps we need spiritual "adrenaline"?

The answer lies in God's Word. "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well." [Matthew 6:33] What are "these things"? When you give your life to God, you will live in such a way that your spirit is always full and alive. You will feel satisfied.

Won't you worship this week? Learn the feeling of satisfaction that never fades. The results are guaranteed...when you follow the instructions.

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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Christian Science Society

209 First St. - Suite 103 - Gaylord

(989) 732-7001

Sunday Service.....10:30 am

April through October

2nd & 4th Wednesday.....7 pm

Sunday School.....10:30 am

Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeffrey Jaggers

400 Michigan Ave. • 348-2974

Website: www.mmm-umc.org

Barrier Free

Sunday Worship.....8:30 & 11 am

Sunday School-

Sept. - May

Adult Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.

Children's Sunday School.....11am

(Childcare Available during 11:00 service)

Bible Study (Wed).....10:30am

Seventh Day Adventist

Pastor Jeff Arthur

Phone 989-275-1061

Services held Saturday at

Camp AuSable off M-72 East

(1st building on right inside camp entrance)

Church Service

Saturday.....9:30 am

Sabbath School

Saturday.....10:30 am

Prayer Meeting

Tuesday.....7 pm

Lovells Chapel

Pastor Rev. D. Dean Coursey

Sunday School.....10 am

Chapel Service.....11 am

Wednesday

Prayer Meeting.....7-8 pm

Free Methodist

Joseph Carpenter - Pastor

Daniel Baldernann-Associate Pastor

6652 (M-72 W.) • 348-9093

or 348-5362

Early Service.....8:30 am

Sunday School.....10 am

Morning Service.....11 am

Prayer Meeting (Wednesday) 7 pm

Emma Lowery United Church Of Christ

3474 West Park Road, Luzerne

Sunday Worship.....11 am

Adult and Youth

Sunday School.....9:30 am

Heritage Baptist

Pastor Ernie Wagner 348-1411

1841 Hartwick Pines Rd.

1/4 mile west of I-75

Sunday School.....9:45 am

Morning Worship.....11 am

Evening Worship.....6 pm

Wednesday.....7 pm

Grayling Assembly of God

Rev. Ron Voelker, Pastor

701 S. I-75 Business Loop

Church 348-8885

Parsonage 348-2588

Sunday School.....9:30 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Evening Service.....6 pm

Wednesday - Family Night

Adult-Youth-Children.....7 pm

The Church of Christ with the Elijah Message

Pastor Paul Rolfe

7662 Kelly Ave., Frederic

Sunday

Worship.....10 am & 7 pm

Wed. Prayer Service.....7 pm

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

President David Page

600 North Elm Street, Gaylord

Sacrament.....10 am

Sunday School.....11 am

Primary.....11 am

Priesthood.....12 noon

Relief Society.....12 noon

Burning Bush Tabernacle

Pastor Patricia Petrie, 348-1278

501 E. Michigan Ave., Grayling

Sunday School.....10 am

Sunday Service &

Children's Church.....11 am

Sunday Evening Service.....6 pm

Monday Prayer Meeting.....7 pm

Wednesday Bible Study.....7 pm

St. John Lutheran (ELCA)

Appointed Pastor Victor Slayman

710 Spruce Street

348-5224

Sunday School.....9:15 am

Sunday Worship.....10:30 am

Community of Christ

Pastor Carol Stephan

North Down River Rd. at

1030 Glenn Rd. • P.O. Box 1188

Church School.....9:45 am

Preaching.....11 am

Midweek Service Prayer.....7 pm

Friendship Church

A Christian Reformed Ministry

Rev. Dick Oberg, Pastor

415 Ohio North, Gaylord

Sunday School.....10 am

Morning Worship.....11 am

Tue. Women's Bible Study.....10 am

Wed. Men's Bible Study.....12 noon

St. Mary's Roman Catholic Community

Robert W. Nalley, J.V., Pastor

700-708 Peninsular - 348-7657

Sabbath Eucharist

Sunday Vigil Mass.....6 pm

Sunday Masses.....8:00 am

Family Mass.....10:00 am

Scripture Study

(Sundays).....9:15 am

Daily Masses.....8:30 am

Wednesday & Fridays.....8:30 am

First Baptist Church of Frederic

Pastor Dale Hammond

Sunday School.....9:45 am

Morning Worship.....11 am

Evening Worship.....6 pm

Wed. Prayer & Bible Study.....7 pm

St. Francis Episcopal

M-72 West

Office 348-5850

Sunday Holy

Eucharist.....8:30 & 10:30 am

Resurrection Life Church

Pastor Jimmie McWatters

Grayling Days Inn Conference Room

Sunday Service.....10:30 am

Phone: 231-536-7933, Fax: 231-536-3046

Wednesday.....7 pm

(call or e-mail for directions)

Website: www.rlcnow.com

E-mail: pastorjim@rlcnow.com

Calvary Baptist Church

Dr. Robert Barnett, Pastor

M-72 West

Sunday School.....9:45 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Evening Worship.....6 pm

Mid-Week Services

Wednesday.....7 pm

Prayer & Awana Club (Wed.) 7 pm

Church of Christ

Scott Hoffer, Pastor

Old US-27 at Skyline Rd.

275-8613

In Search of the Lord's Way

Sunday Mornings on

TV 29 & 8.....9 am

Sunday Classes.....10 am

Sunday Worship.....11 am

Sunday Evening.....6 pm

Wednesday

Mid-Week Bible Study.....7 pm

Abundant Life Tabernacle

Pastor Lyle Studer

211 Shellenbarger St.

348-5325

Sunday School.....10 am

Sunday

Worship.....11 am & 6:00 pm

Wednesday Evening.....7 pm

Grayling Baptist Church

Affiliated with S.B.C.

Pastor Terry Colby

705 Madsen St. • Grayling

348-2557

Sunday School.....9:45 am

Morning Worship.....11 am

Evening Service.....6 pm

Wednesday Service.....7 pm

Bear Lake Christian

M-72 & East Bear Lake Rd.

Sunday School.....9 am

Sunday Service.....10 am

Luzerne Baptist

Pastor James Durfee

2247 Durfee Lane

Sunday School.....10 am

Sunday Morning Worship.....11 am

Sunday Evening Worship.....6 pm

Wednesday Bible Study.....7 pm

Harvest Time Church of God

Pastor Fred Coates

506 North Birch St., Kalkaska

(231) 258-3448

Sunday School.....10 am

Worship Service.....11 am & 6 pm

Family Training Hour and Prayer

Wednesday.....7 pm

Mt. Hope Evangelical Lutheran--Missouri Synod

Pastor - Rev. Steven Thiel

905 N. I-75 Bus. Lp.

348-5921

Wed. Morning Bible Study.....9:30 am

Saturday Worship.....5:00 pm

Sunday Worship.....10:30 am

Unity Church of Today North

Terry Dickinson, Minister

Forbush Corners, Frederic

(989) 348-1584

Sunday Services.....9:00 am

St. Martins Ev. Lutheran (Wels)

Herbert R. Filter - Pastor

For information call 275-5443

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Sunday Worship.....11:00 am

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Outman, Christie marry



Mr. and Mrs. Barry Christie

Barry and Ginger LaForge wish to announce the marriage of their daughter, Danae Shelly Outman, to Mr. Barry Christie. An intimate ceremony took place in Grayling on December 29, 2002. Bridal and maid of honor gowns were designed by Ginger LaForge. The couple makes their home in Lansing.

Clark, Essmaker engaged



Matthew Clark and Esmeralda Essmaker

John and Maritza Essmaker would like to announce the engagement of their daughter Esmeralda Esperanza Essmaker to Matthew Jay Clark. Both currently reside in Grayling. The groom's parents are Dan and Pat Clark of Grand Rapids.

RANGE FIRING

Range firing scheduled during January 29 - February 4, is as follows:

The Range 40 Air to Ground Complex, located north of County Rd. 612, east of Guthrie Lake, south of Old State Rd. 618, and west of County Rd. F97 (Twin Bridge Rd.) will be conducting live and inert bombing operations by the Air National Guard during the following dates: January 29 - 30, February 1, February 4.

Small Arms Ranges located west of Lake Margrethe, north of Howe Road, east of the gas pipeline and south of Portage Creek: February 1 - 2.

Heavy weapons range firing is scheduled from sunrise until three hours after sunset. Occasionally, the Post Commander without additional notice to the public may authorize mission-firing requirements beyond this time. This firing schedule is subject to change without notice to the public.

Contact the Grayling Department of Natural Resources

for the areas closed for hunting within the boundaries of the installation. Grayling DNR telephone number: 989-348-6371.

For further information call 1-800-628-5820.

DISTRICT HEALTH #10 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

District Health Department No. 10, Grayling office, has scheduled the following clinics/classes for February. Please call 348-7800 for appointments.

Immunization clinics: February 5 and 19.
Family planning: February 14 and 28.

Optional/confidential HIV/AIDS testing: Call for appointment.

WIC Supplemental Food Program for pregnant women, infants and children: February 5, 10, 13, 17, 19, 20, 24 and 27.

Breast and cervical cancer screening: February 12. Call 1-800-968-7300 to schedule an appointment. This program is available to women ages 40 - 64, who have limited or no health insurance.

Free Hearing and Vision screening, children 3 - 18, Head Start Building: February 28.

Other services are available; call (989) 348-7800 for appointment.

Other health services include: Maternal/Infant support - Families Matter, Environmental Health (well and septic permits, food service, water testing, etc.), HIV/AIDS testing, OSHA Bloodborne Pathogen Standard Training session. Free hearing and vision screenings for ages three - 18 years by appointment.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Crawford County Sheriff Kirk Wakefield reports his office handled the following 103 complaints the week of January 20-26:

(Approximately 41 of the accident totals listed -- traffic and non-traffic -- occurred during snowy periods.) Thirty-seven traffic accidents, six non-traffic accidents, one traffic safety public appearance, four civil matter disputes, family trouble, one suspicious situations, 18 general non-criminal, two structure fires, six delinquent minors, three false alarm activations, one criminal sexual conduct/sexual assault, two assault/intimidation/stalking, one larceny, one motor vehicle theft, one non-sufficient funds check, one fraud - no account check, one damage to property, 10 public peace/disorderly, two conservation, one OUIL/UBAL, two health and safety, one conservation, one miscellaneous criminal offense, two driving violations/driving while license suspended, etc.

For more information, log on to: www.crawfordsheriff.org.

as scheduled; Mi Child and Healthy Kid Insurance Programs; Health Promotion Programs - Smoking Cessation Classes - Abstinence Education (and various health topic presentations by health educators).



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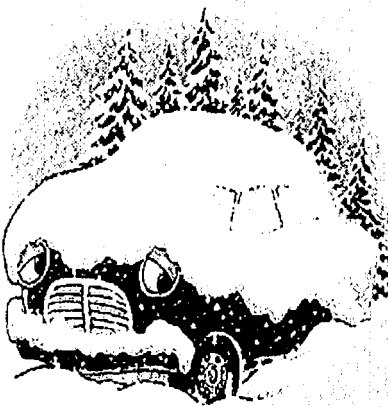
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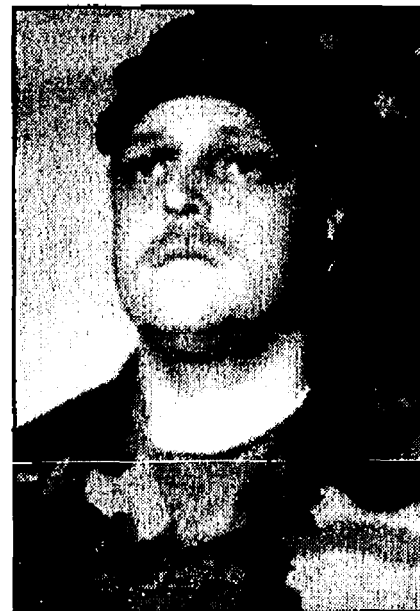


The Grayling Lions Club is giving all 7th - 12th graders in the Crawford AuSable Schools and Calvary Baptist Academy a copy of the Liberty Day Michigan booklet, pocket size books containing the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States. Liberty Day is a non-partisan, non-profit volunteer effort to educate Americans about these important documents. It is about a day in the school year when the focus is on teaching about our country. The Lions will distribute 1,160 booklets. Grayling Lions Club president Bob Weller, Secretary Bob Gingerich and Project Chairman Bob Prause presents the booklets to Crawford AuSable School's Superintendent Milli Haug.

HOMETOWN MILITARY NEWS

Scott and Kris Bly along with big brother Justin and big sister Sara announce the arrival of Lauren Marie Elizabeth Bly, born on January 23, 2003. She weighed seven pounds, eleven ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long and was born at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Waterford.

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Pvt. Vance A. Helzer

Pvt. Vance A. Helzer of Grayling, leaves January 29 for Fort Knox, KY to receive specialized training as an M1 Abrams Armor Crewman. He is scheduled for an eight-year term of enlistment with the C

Company 1/126th Armor Division. Sending him off are his wife, Susan, and six children.

Air Force Airman Aaron M. McClain has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

McClain is the son of James and Kim McClain of Grayling.

LIBRARY NEWS

Devereaux Memorial Library Kirtland Community College (KCC) will be offering Community Education classes at the library over the next few months: February 4 - Genealogy; March 4 - Sign Language; March 18 - Wood Carving; April 8 - Photography; April 22 - Poetry Appreciation; and May 20 - Stained Glass.

Classes will be held 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. each date and the cost is \$35 per class. A limited number of scholarships are available. Call KCC to register at 275-5000, ext. 351.

Friends of Crawford County Libraries are updating and upgrading the book and media collections in the new library, and at the Lovells, Frederic and Beaver Creek branch libraries. In the past year alone, Friends has donated over \$13,500 in new books and audio tapes for the library collections.

Friends has been replacing worn copies of some favorite authors with donated books and purchases through Internet used book sources, but are still in need of good, hard-covered editions of the following:

Various titles by Patricia Cornwell, James Patterson, Robin Cook, James Clavell and Leona Blair, especially *Woman's Place*, *Privilege*, and *With this Ring*. Also, Stephen King's *Insomnia*, *Salem's Lot*, *The Drawing of Three*, and *Waste Lands*. Hard covers by Robert Ludlum and W.E.B. Griffin are also in demand and need replacing.

Donations may be dropped off at the Devereaux Memorial Library, 201 Plum Street in Grayling or call Shirley Schmooch at 348-5132 to arrange for pick up.

The Friends are still going over the inventory and believe they will be looking in the near future for classic titles by Hemingway and Hawthorne.



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Nursing Centre residents celebrate 'Super Bowl Friday'



Staff and residents of Grayling Nursing Centre were encouraged to dress in their favorite football team colors and celebrate "Super Bowl Friday" on January 24. The day was filled with activities related to Super Bowl XXXVII. Trivia games, Bingo (called by Grayling Middle School students and Grayling High School Varsity Viking cheerleaders) and even a football game between residents and staff were enjoyed by many. The GHS Viking cheerleaders are shown here entertaining the residents. The real Super Bowl XXXVII was played Sunday, January 26. The Tampa Bay Buccaneers defeated the Oakland Raiders by a score of 48-21.

Local writer featured in Ohio publication

The work of Cathy Lester, of Grayling, has been published in the current issue of *Kaleidoscope: Exploring the Experience of Disability through Literature and the Fine Arts*.

Lester's interview with British actor, Nabil Shaban, entitled, "The Wheels of Khan: An Interview with Nabil Shaban," appears in issue number 46 of the magazine and was selected from among more than 200 submissions considered for publication.

Lester earned a bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University in 1965 and a master's degree from the University of Michigan in 1972. She is cur-

rently a writer and formerly taught English as a foreign language, having lived in Columbia, Singapore, England, Iran, and Saudi Arabia. Lester said, "From living overseas, I've always been interested in the 'alternative' or 'outsider's' point of view."

Her short stories, articles and book reviews have appeared in various magazines and newspapers. She has a book of short stories entitled *Surf Patrol*. Her short stories, "Over-Eager" and "Uncle Peter," have both won awards.

Kaleidoscope Magazine is published by United Disability Services in Akron, Ohio and

expresses the experiences of disability from the perspective of individuals, families, healthcare professionals and society as a whole.

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VIEWPOINT

Michigan Press Association

Public Notices: Your right to know

The public's right to know is more than an idea. It is news and information delivered right to your door. When it comes to public notices, you may not think about this, but here at your local newspaper we do every day.

Currently and historically, newspapers are designated by law to publish public notices, and we are proud to fulfill this role in an open, democratic society founded on the constitutional right of a free press. Our purpose and dedication is to serve your right to know.

Your newspaper is first and foremost an independent third party keeping vigil on government, and ideally positioned to publish public notices with a thorough, objective point of view, as they become news or official information important to citizens.

Public notices cover important government information affecting people, business and communities in three primary categories:

(1) Actions by government that are the "public's right to

know" allowing citizens the time and opportunity to react;

(2) Government bids and purchases handled in an atmosphere of equal opportunity, and to ensure that tax money is spent wisely; and

(3) Notices fulfilling "due process" by courts or authorities that are taking actions against citizens and/or business.

Public notice can include issues such as zoning changes, tax increases, allocation of tax dollars for government projects and expenditures, and legislative proposals by local and state government -- topics that clearly affect your life and community.

It is the good news of government that Michigan statutes specify publications containing "news and editorial content" as "newspapers" for the purpose of public notice publication and delivery. And these statutes are based on solid criteria.

First, newspapers are of general circulation, accessible to all. Second, they are published on a regular basis and circulated in the local subdivision affected by the notice. Third, a "newspa-

per" offers verifiable and traceable proof of "due process" assuring notices are available for citizens to see and read.

Essentially, your newspaper is a historical document, printed and published with a date on every page. It is the medium that delivers the news and information that is important to you in a timely and verifiable format. Furthermore, it remains the medium you rely on to gain and confirm government related news.

A 1998 readership survey conducted by American Opinion Research for the Michigan Press Association shows that more than half of a newspaper's readers read public notices. Seventy percent read the newspaper for court news, 70% for Michigan government news, 71% for political news and information, and 90% for news about their hometown.

Clearly you have taken notice. This is the critical value of public notice in your newspaper -- your right to know, delivered right to your door.



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Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City announced that Ryan Casey of Grayling has been named to the Dean's List for the Fall Semester, 2002.

The Dean's List recognizes outstanding academic achievement of full-time students who do unusually well in their studies. Students who have achieved a current grade point average of 3.5 or above out of a possible 4.0 are recognized.

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Hanson Hills benefits from students' fundraiser

A fundraiser was held Friday and Saturday, January 10 and 11, to help Hanson Hills Recreation Area in Grayling Township.

The fundraiser, held at Bloomin' Grape, combined a bake sale and chamber music provided by students from Grayling Middle School.

On Saturday, the Bloomin' Grape donated \$1 from each sandwich sold in addition to a percentage of total sales on Saturday.

Charlotte Mosel, owner of the local delicatessen, said money is needed for maintenance and operation at Hanson Hills, a sports park funded by local millage monies and revenue from downhill skiing, tubing, sledding, and cross country skiing each winter.

In the warmer months, concerts are offered and organized softball, soccer, and t-ball games can be found in full swing at the park. There is also an indoor skate park for in-line skaters and skateboarders.

Mosel said she felt the event was one way to help a place that



Abby Wheeler (left) and Alyssa Lewis take care of the bake sale while Alexzandra Mosel, Jessie Bobenmoyer, Amanda Jackson and Monica Leslie play chamber music at the recent fundraiser.

offers a lot to the residents of Crawford County.

In addition to the bake sale there was a contest to guess the

number of lollipops and pennies in a jar. Brian Chase won that contest.

Mosel said a total of \$236 was

raised over the weekend for Hanson Hills.

For more information about Hanson Hills, call 348-9266.

MILITARY NEWS

Army National Guard Pfc. Marc A. Kiefer has arrived at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Aberdeen, Maryland, to complete the wheeled vehicle repairer advanced individual training (AIT) course.

The student will be trained to troubleshoot, repair, replace and adjust all related engine, fuel, air and cooling systems, electrical chassis, mechanical and hydraulic components, systems, and assemblies of wheeled vehicles and diesel power plants/packs. Additional instruction will include use of technical publications, tools, and diagnostic equipment needed to repair wheeled vehicles.

Kiefer is the son of James and Pamela Kiefer of Grayling.

He is a 1999 graduate of Grayling High School.

Army National Guard Pvt. Keil F. Clough has arrived at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Aberdeen, Maryland, to complete the wheeled vehicle repairer advanced individual training (AIT) course.

The student will be trained to troubleshoot, repair, replace and adjust all related engine, fuel, air and cooling systems, electrical chassis, mechanical and hydraulic components, systems, and assemblies of wheeled vehicles and diesel power plants/packs.

Additional instruction will include use of technical publications, tools, and diagnostic equipment needed to repair wheeled vehicles.

Clough is the son of Art E. and Diane M. Clough of Grayling. He graduated in 2002 from Grayling High School.

Attention members of the military and their families: The Crawford County Avalanche welcomes Military News. Our main source of military news comes from Public Affairs Officers serving fleets, companies, and training centers. Make sure you tell your PAO that the *Avalanche* is your hometown newspaper.

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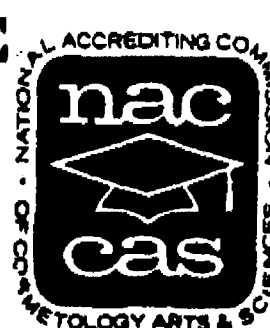
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Leaves Grayling	5:45 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	6:45 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	9:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	11:30 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	3:30 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	5:00 p.m.

LOVELLS

Leaves Grayling	9:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	11:30 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	3:30 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	5:00 p.m.

M-72 EAST

Leaves Grayling	6:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	7:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	9:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	11:30 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	1:30 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	3:30 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	5:00 p.m.

M-72 WEST

Demand Response Service
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Leaves Grayling	7:30 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	11:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	1:00 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	2:15 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	4:30 p.m.

*The 1:00 p.m. south run does not go all the way into Roscommon.

To Request Weekday Demand Response Services
Call Dispatch @ 348-5409.

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For information regarding this program contact:
Dave Frederick @ 348-8215

SPECIAL EVENT TRIPS**

SCHEDULED FOR February 2003

Trip #1:

Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2003
Destination: Turtle Creek Casino - Traverse City
Departs Grayling: 9:00 a.m.
Arrives Back In Grayling: 4:00 p.m. (Approximately)

**Special Event Trips Require: (1) a minimum of twenty-two passengers; and (2) that passengers less than 18 years of age be accompanied by a responsible adult.

To Reserve Seats or Request Information Concerning
Special Event Trips
Call Richard or Gary @ 348-4101

Grayling Kiwanis Club celebrates 68 years

January 18, 1935 was the beginning of the Grayling Kiwanis Club. It is very different now compared to its beginnings.

The name Kiwanis originates from the Ojibwe Indian language. Its meaning is "we trade" or "we share our talents." Kiwanis was organized in 1914 in Detroit by Allen S. Browne and received a charter from the State of Michigan in 1915.

The original 30 members consisted of Grayling businessmen and community leaders who would meet to discuss and exchange business and services among members. Early programs included Talks on Business, International and District Day, Open Forums (to discuss business issues), Service Clubs to help the community, and The Banker Under the New Deal.

Today, membership is open to all individuals who want to make a contribution to the community. Kiwanis Clubs, including the Grayling club, view their role within their communities with a great deal of foresight. Key aspects to operating an effective club include:

- Evaluating both children's issues and community needs on an ongoing basis.
- Conducting service projects to respond to those identified needs.
- Maintaining an active membership roster of professional business people who have both the desire and the ability to serve the community.

Club meetings are conducted once a week and offer an atmosphere of fun, learning, and fellowship. In addition to attending the meetings, the typical Kiwanian volunteers each month



Photo courtesy of Grayling Kiwanis

The Grayling Kiwanis Club is celebrating 68 years of community service. The Board of Directors for 2003 include, from left: (back row) Vice President Jeddy Hood, Trustee Janet Varney-Small, Treasurer Melanie Richardson, Secretary Dawn McGee, and Trustees Bob Bovee, Bill Bush, and Kay Cosgray; (seated) Trustees Beverly O'Connor and Al Johnston, District Lt. Gov. Sharon Coppock, President Lynn Porritt-McConnell.

to assist with club service projects.

Service projects often are linked to the Kiwanis program, "Young Children: Priority One." This initiative places continuing focus on the needs of children in pediatric trauma, safety, child-care, early development, infant health, nutrition, and parenting skills.

Service projects also can address other needs within the community, such as working to stop substance abuse, helping the elderly, promoting literacy, supporting youth sports and recreation, responding to disasters, and supporting specific persons

in need.

Kiwanis also plays a key role in the development of future leaders. K-Kids clubs at the elementary school level, Builders Clubs in middle schools and junior high, Key Clubs in high schools, and Circle K clubs at the collegiate level all are Kiwanis organizations that teach community service and leadership skills to young people.

In addition, Aktion Clubs are made up of adults with mental and physical disabilities who enthusiastically perform service to help others.

The 2003 Grayling Kiwanis Club Board of Directors includes: President Lynn McConnell, Vice President Jeddy Hood, Secretary Dawn McGee, Treasurer Melanie Richardson, and Trustees Janet Varney-Small, Bob Bovee, Bill Bush, Kay Cosgray, Beverly O'Connor and Al Johnston.

The Board invites anyone interested in joining the Grayling Kiwanis Club to attend any weekly meeting, held Thursdays, from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m., at the Gray Rock Cafe, 2123 Industrial Drive in Grayling.

State, county tackling indoor radon risks

by Corbin Sullivan
Capital News Service

LANSING -- Radon gas is the second-leading cause of lung cancer -- after cigarette smoking -- in the United States, and state and Crawford County health officials are using the winter months as a time to educate those who are at risk.

"It's important that everybody test their houses," said Sue Hendershott, the indoor radon specialist for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

The decomposition of uranium in certain kinds of soil leads to the release of radon, a radioactive gas.

"It really has to do with the glacial shift and how much of that rock is near the surface," said Jane Schneider, a health educator for the health district that covers 10 counties including Crawford County.

Radon is also undetectable to human senses, and there are no symptoms associated with breathing it in, aside from cancer. Hendershott said, "It increases your risk of lung cancer, and the bad thing is that it doesn't give you a warning."

The American Lung Association estimates that radon causes up to 22,000 lung cancer deaths each year in the United States, and it accounts for 12 percent of all cancer-related deaths.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the average Michigan indoor radon level is twice as high as the U.S. average.

"Approximately one in eight homes in Michigan have a higher

radon level than the action standard set by the EPA," Hendershott said. "All existing homes need to be tested."

The "action standard" she refers to is 4 picocuries, a measurement of gas levels. Homeowners can test their radon levels with kits sold or given away by state and county health departments.

Most of the areas identified as high risk in Michigan are in the southern part of the state, including Hillsdale, Washtenaw and Lenawee Counties. But areas in northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula have to worry, too.

"It is estimated that hundreds of homes in Crawford County and surrounding area have elevated radon levels," said a report by the Air Quality Control Agency.

The county health department uses January, designated as National Radon Action Month by the EPA, to educate its residents on the dangers of radon.

Schneider said, "The health department provides testing kits free for the month of January, but the kits are only \$5 normally."

She warned that every home is at-risk no matter how it is built. "There's a real myth out there that if you don't have a basement there's no possibility of radon poisoning."

Radon can actually be a problem in any building, from schools to office buildings. But there are ways to ensure that radon will not be a problem after it is discovered.

"If radon is found in a home, it's a fairly easy fix," Schneider said.

To rid a house of high radon levels, a ventilation system can be installed in the basement, and cracks in the foundation wall can be sealed.

New homes can be built so they will never have a radon problem.

A ventilation system is built in from the basement to roof during the construction of a new house. If done early, the system cost is minimal -- between \$350 and \$500.

Hendershott said, "It will be a problem until all homes are built with radon-resistant construction."

To contact the local health department office, call 348-7800.

Do you have asthma, or do you know someone who does? The Grayling Asthma Project can answer your questions and give you free information on asthma. Call us at (989) 348-0779.

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To My Baby Girl

Happy 1st Birthday
Natalyah Essmaker
January 24th
Love Mommy

OBITUARIES

Margery Lillian Smith Aug. 20, 1924-Jan. 22, 2003

Margery Lillian Smith, age 78 of Grayling, died Wednesday, January 22 in Genesee County at Community Home Health and Hospice. She was born on August 20, 1924 to Oscar William and Anna (Kumpula) Keckonen.

Margery was married to Robert K. Bennetts on September 4, 1943 in Detroit. He preceded her in death in 1971. She was remarried to Donald Smith on November 22, 1974, who preceded her in death on September 15, 2000.

Mrs. Smith, a full time resident of Grayling for 20 plus years, spent her weekends and summers in Grayling since the 1960's.

She was a retired Flint Public Schools food service manager at the Sarvis Center. She retired in 1979.

Margery was a member of the Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church. She was a member of the Grayling Country Club. She enjoyed playing bridge, crafts, golf and quilting. She was an accomplished seamstress and took Bishop sewing classes to the highest level. Margery was a wonderful cook and enjoyed cooking for family get togethers. She also enjoyed wintering in Gulf Shores, Alabama for the past 20 years. She loved visiting and socializing with friends and family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Oscar William and Anna Keckonen.

She is survived by one daughter, Nancy Jean Bennetts of Orlando, FL; one son, William L. (Jacquelyn) Bennetts of Swartz Creek; three stepchildren, Nancy (William) Krouse of Defiance, OH, Patricia (Peter) DeJourdan of Oviedo, FL, Thomas (Jodie) Smith of Rockford; nine grandchildren, one great grandchild, and brother-in-law James (Bernice) Bennetts of Laurium.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, January 25. Reverend Jeffrey Jagers officiated and burial was at Lakeview Cemetery in Calumet.

The family would like to thank Fosterian Manor Assisted Living, McLaren Homewood Village and Community Home Health and Hospice.

Arrangements by Sorenson Funeral Home, McEvers Chapel, Grayling.

George A. Granger, Jr. Dec. 2, 1933 - Jan. 26, 2003

George A. Granger, Jr., age 69 of Grayling died Sunday, January 26 at St. Mary's Hospital in Saginaw. Mr. Granger was born on December 2, 1933 in Grayling where he was raised.

On March 29, 1952, he married the former Shirley Jensen in Gaylord. He was stationed in Germany serving in the United States Army Corps. of Engineers.

Mr. Granger received his Bachelors of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Tri-State University in Angola, Indiana and his Masters degree from Michigan State University. He taught and then went into private professional engineering practice. In 1972, with his brother Jim, he established Granger Engineering in Cadillac and provided service throughout northern Michigan. Granger Engineering opened other offices including one in Gaylord, merging into what is now known as Wade Trim. He retired and continued with private consulting.

Mr. Granger was very active in his community and in his church, the Community of Christ where he was a bishop. One of his many accomplishments was designing the Cadillac Area Sports Association (CASA) Park.

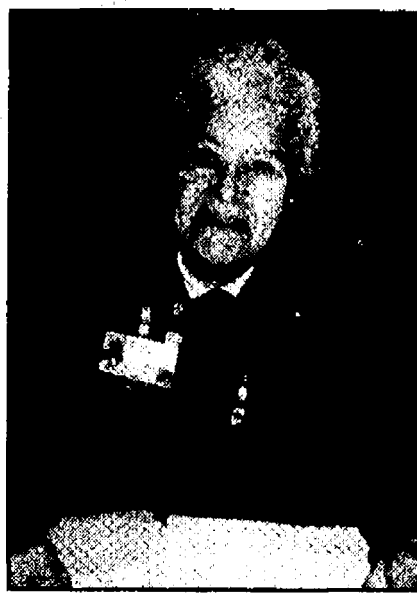
Mr. Granger is survived by his wife of over 50 years, Shirley; one son, George A. Granger III of Portage, three daughters, Vicky Dalton of Gaylord, Lorri (Thijs) Granger of the Netherlands, Christine (Mike) Mapes of Grawn; nine grandchildren, Amy and Christopher G. Granger, Christopher J., David and Jessica Dalton, Edric and Arjen Pletting, Aart and Ywen VerLoren; one great-granddaughter, Abigail Boyden; and one brother, James (Marilyn) Granger of Cheboygan.

Memorial services for Mr. Granger will be held on Friday January 31, at 3 p.m. from the Nelson Funeral Home.

Visitation with the family will begin on Friday January 31, at 12 noon.

Memorial contributions may be made to Community of Christ or to the Park of the Pines Endowment Fund, through the Nelson Funeral Home, 135 North Center, Gaylord, MI 49735.

Arrangements by Nelson Funeral Home, Gaylord.



Marguerite "Marge" Oliver

Sept. 29, 1911 - Jan. 27, 2003
Marguerite "Marge" Oliver, age 91, of Grayling, died at Mercy Hospital on January 27. She was born on September 29, 1911 in Bay City.

The former Marguerite C. Roth was married to Verne C. Oliver, who preceded her in death on January 3, 1978.

Mrs. Oliver was a homemaker who lived in Grayling most of her life. She was a member of the Mercy Hospital Auxiliary, and a faithful member at the Mt. Hope Lutheran Church in Grayling. She was active in "Quilting for Missions", and enjoyed working with and being with her church family.

Mrs. Oliver loved to fly fish and also ice fish, when her health permitted her to do so. She enjoyed living in her log cabin house on the Manistee River. She loved the company of her friends and neighbors, and a good "pizza."

Marge was a volunteer at Mercy Hospital for 40 years, doing many tasks. People will remember her for working the front desk at the hospital. She also volunteered for the American Red Cross for over 25 years, and delivered "Meals on Wheels." Marge helped many people by running them to their appointments and helping with errands.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday, January 30 at 11:00 a.m. at Mt. Hope Lutheran Church, Reverend Steven Thiel will officiate with burial at Elmwood Cemetery.

Visitation will be on Wednesday, January 29 from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m.

Arrangements by Sorenson Funeral Home, McEvers Chapel, Grayling.

John Ludeman January 21, 2003

John Ludeman, age 98, long time resident of Crawford County, and previous owner of the well known Camp Shoppenagon Downriver Hunting and Fishing Lodge passed away on January 21, in Denver, Colorado.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Wilma.

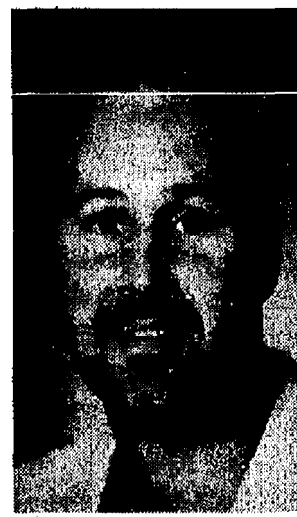
John is survived by one son, Frank (Jeanette) Ludeman of Castle Rock, CO; four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Arrangements by Olinger Chapel Hill Mortuary, 6601 South Colorado Blvd., Littleton, Colorado, 80121.

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Darius A. Divina, DO, is joining the staff of Mercy Hospital Grayling as a specialist in Orthopedic Surgery. A graduate of the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. Divina completed his residency in Orthopedic Surgery at Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital in Pontiac, MI.

Dr. Divina is joining Joseph R. Yacisen, DO, and the AuSable Sports Medicine and Joint Center. The main office for the practice is now under construction in Grayling.

In addition to Grayling office hours, both physicians will be seeing patients at the Mercy Family Care offices in Prudenville and Roscommon. Until the new Grayling office is ready, Grayling appointments will be offered at the Mercy Hospital Grayling Specialty Clinic.

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SENIOR CITIZEN NEWS

by Nova Anderson

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January:

29 - Stuffed Peppers/Chopped Sirloin; Exercise & Line Dancing at 10 a.m.; Bible Study at 10:30 a.m.; Stag Cards at 12 noon; Craft Class at 1 p.m. and Medicine Shoppe Bingo at 5:30 p.m.

30 - Oven Pork/New England Dinner; Blood Pressure/Blood Sugar at 11 a.m. to 12 noon; Adult Ed Class at 1 p.m. and Uno Attack at 5:30 p.m.

31 - BBQ Chicken/No Dinner;

Pantry Bingo & 80 Cent Rummy at 1 p.m.

February:

1 - Pool League at 1 p.m.

2 - Sunday Brunch serving eggs, American fries, ham, toast and fruit bar (everyone welcome).

3 - Sauerkraut Kielbasa/Hot Turkey Sandwich; Stag Cards at 12 noon; Bridge Club at 1 p.m. and Hangman at 5:30 p.m.

4 - Swedish Meatballs/Pork Cutlets; Speaker Craig Denholm at 12 noon; Euchre Club at 1 p.m. and McDonald's Bingo at 5:30 p.m.

Thought for the week: Maybe the biggest problem with loneliness is that we walk around thinking we're the only ones suffering from it. Don't be lonely anymore, come to the center to meet new friends.

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JV b-ball cont'd 4B

Two setbacks

Pair of league losses drops Grayling into tie for 1st in NEMC

► Varsity squad falls to Braves of Tawas and Owls of Oscoda

Grayling High School's varsity boys basketball team lost two conference matches last week, dropping its season league record to 5-2 (6-4 overall). The Vikings are now tied with the Bobcats of Bay City John Glenn, also 5-2, for the conference lead.

On Tuesday, the Vikings lost a closely-contested game against the Braves of Tawas in Grayling 68-66.

Grayling trailed 18-14 after one quarter of play. The Vikings scored their 14 on a put-back and a jumper by Joe Lange, a triple and a drive by Adam Kaiser, a shot inside by Roy Czapek, a jumper by Roger Alvarez, and a free throw by Gibson Tobin.

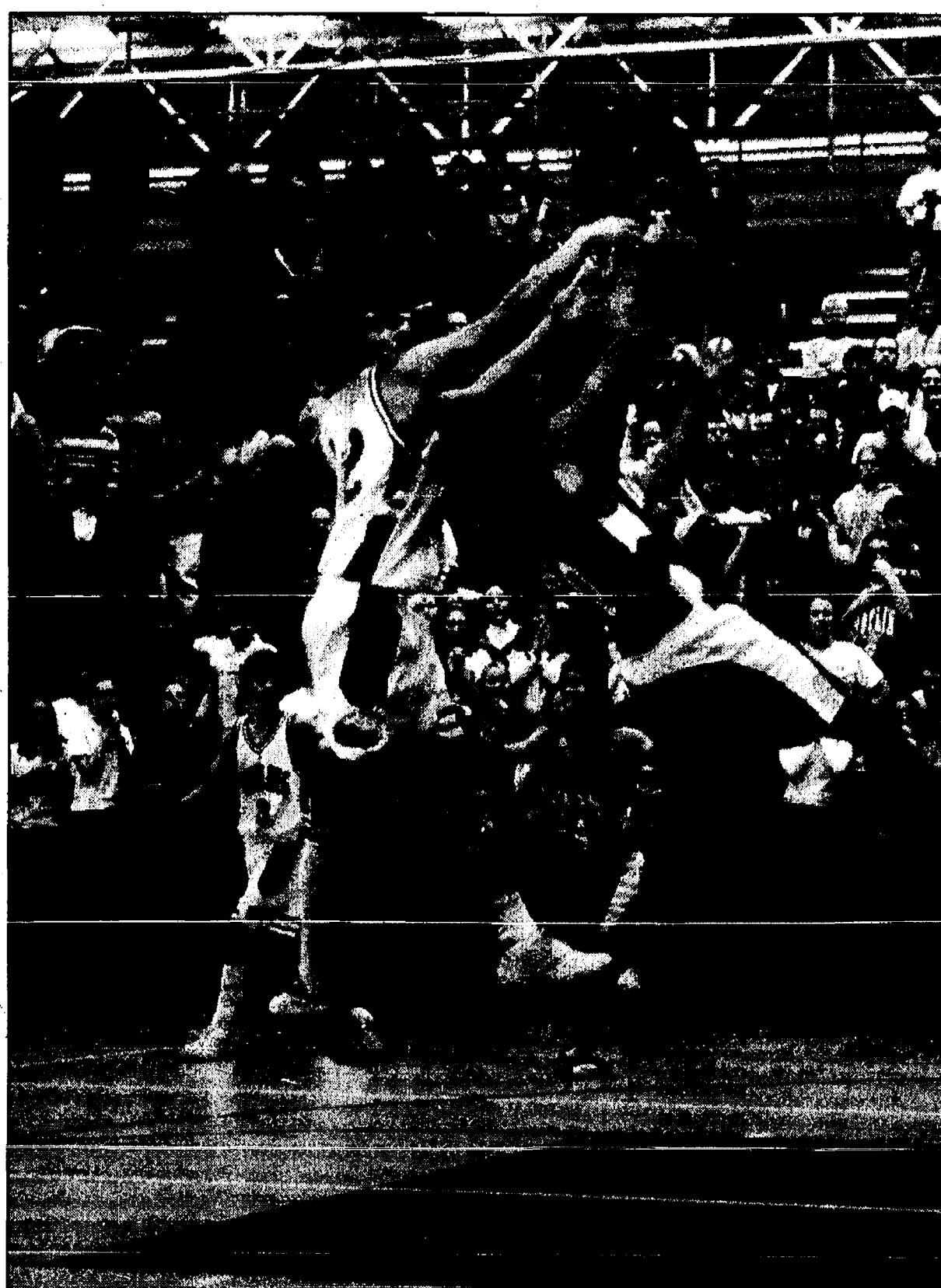
In a back-and-forth second quarter, the Braves edged Grayling 15-14. Grayling's 14 points were the result of a triple by Travis Helsel, a shot inside by Lange, a jumper by Helsel, a drive by Tobin, a put-back by Lange, and free throws by Lange and Alvarez.

The Vikings trailed 33-28 at halftime.

Grayling rallied for 20 points in the third period. Czapek had 10 of them with five baskets inside, including one on a tip-in.

Continued on Page 12B

See "VARSITY SQUAD..."



Photos by Caleb Casey

With 1.2 seconds left in the game, Tawas intercepts a Grayling in-bounds pass intended for Adam Kaiser. The play sealed a two-point win for Tawas.

Ten down, ten to go

JV team 10-0 at halfway point of season

► Grayling wins at Oscoda on Friday, defeats Tawas on Tuesday

The GHS junior varsity boys basketball team posted its 9th and 10th victories of the season last week with wins over Tawas and Oscoda.

The Vikings are 10-0 at the halfway point of their 20-game schedule.

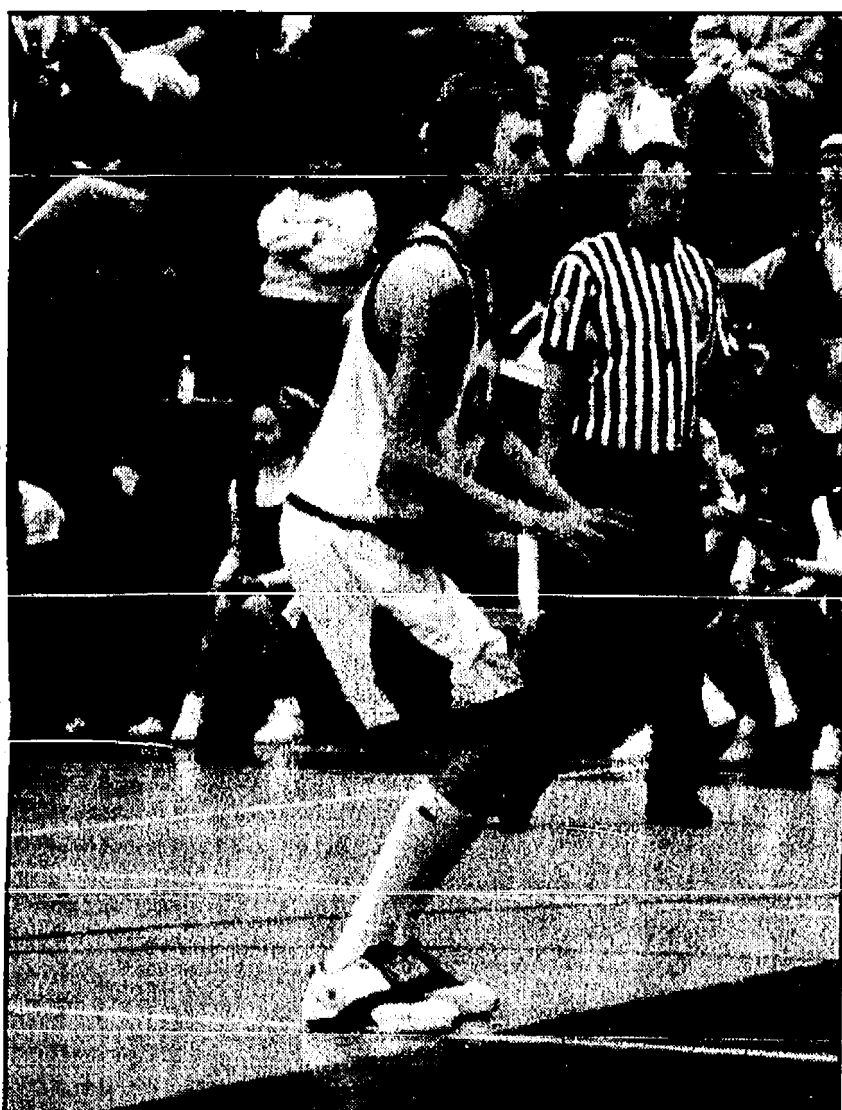
On Tuesday, GHS defeated

the Braves of Tawas 67-38 in Grayling.

The Vikings led 14-7 after one quarter of play on the strength of an 11-0 run that came in the middle of the period. Grayling's first quarter scoring effort included two lay-ups by Josh Hinkle, a jumper by Ryan Davis, a triple by Hinkle, a drive by Ryan Schmidt, a shot inside by Bobby Starks, and a free throw by Josh Millikin.

Continued on Page 4B

See "JV TEAM 10-0..."



Josh Hinkle shoots a free throw in the game against Tawas on Tuesday.

Freshman team loses in overtime

► Vikings fall to 7-1 with overtime loss to the Blue Devils of Gaylord

by Caleb Casey
Staff Writer

After a 7-0 start, Grayling High School's freshman boys basketball team recently lost for the first time this season. On Wednesday, the visiting Blue Devils of Gaylord handed the Vikings a 64-53 overtime loss at GHS.

"We really struggled against their zone defenses tonight," Coach Joe Mau said. "We had the opportunity to win the game at the end of regulation, but just didn't execute. The boys played hard and we will definitely learn from this loss and be ready for Boyne City on Tuesday."

After a tightly-contested first quarter, Gaylord led 13-11. Grayling scored its 11 points on a triple by Zac Baker, two field goals and two free throws by Eli VanNuck, and a jumper by Baker.

Grayling tied the game at 13-13 with a jumper by VanNuck. Gaylord scored a 6-0 run to lead 19-13. Grayling responded with a 7-0 run - baskets by Baker, VanNuck, and Reagan Schmidt.

Continued on Page 5B

See "FRESHMAN TEAM..."



Photo by Caleb Casey

Ryan Feldhauser passes off to a teammate in the Grayling vs. Gaylord freshman boys basketball game in Grayling on Wednesday.

Ski teams defeat Harrison, fall to Mt. Pleasant

► Girls team falls to 2nd in league, boys team tied for 1st in conference

When you enter the lodge at Snowsnake Mountain near Harrison, you see the fabled "snowsnake" mounted over the fireplace. The mythical snowsnake, a white fur-bearing snake that hides in the snow, causes skiers to fall when their skis become entangled with it. On Thursday, the Viking skiers found out about the snowsnake.

Grayling High School's girls and boys ski teams both defeated Harrison last week but lost to Mt. Pleasant as skiers lost skis and fell, as the "snake," as Mt. Pleasant refers to it, got them.

In the girls competition, final team scores were Grayling 31, Harrison 42 and Mt. Pleasant 32, Grayling 42.

The top skier for Grayling was Heather Vandecar with 10 points. She placed 1st in slalom and 3rd in giant slalom (GS) vs. Harrison and 1st and 5th vs. Mt. Pleasant.

Andria Alvarez had 16 team points with 3rd in both slalom races and a 4th and 6th in GS.

Freshman Jill Seager earned 27 team points, placing 5th and 7th in slalom and 6th and 9th in the giant slalom races. Mallory Olson had 30 points overall with two 2nd place finishes in GS. Olson disqualified for the first time this season in slalom as the fabled "snake" wrapped a ski around a gate and released her binding.

Kassie McClain had 34 points skiing at the end of the line-up under "must finish" conditions in slalom after two teammates disqualified. She placed 7th and 9th in slalom and 8th and 10th in GS.

Jessica Thomson had the "snake" bite a ski in slalom and rip it off for 13th in both slalom and 10th and 12th in GS.

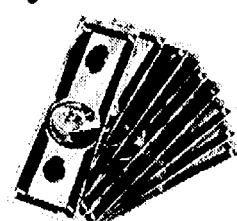
In the boys races, Grayling was led by Trevor Clough and Jim Jansen. Clough placed 1st and 2nd in the slaloms and Jansen was 1st in both GS races. Clough has won eight of nine slalom races this year as he placed 1st vs. Harrison and 2nd vs. Mt. Pleasant. He also finished 2nd and 4th in the GS races for a total of nine team points.

Jon Handy placed 2nd and 4th

Continued on Page 3B

See "SKI TEAMS..."

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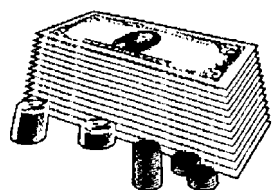
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Local team wins Tip Up Town softball tournament



Photo courtesy of Jacki Barnes

Northwoods, a softball team consisting mostly of players from the Grayling area, won the Tip Up Town festival's annual softball tournament this past weekend. It was the third consecutive championship at the event for the Northwoods squad. The single-elimination TUT tournament was played on the ice of Houghton Lake during the first and last weekends of the festival, with the championship match wrapping up on Sunday, January 26 with a game in frigid, snowy conditions. This year's Northwoods line-up, pictured after Sunday's win, included: (front, left to right) Corey Derenzy, Steve Peterson, Darrell Metzger, Mark Burke, Caleb Casey; (back, left to right) Tom Barnes, Joel Mack, Bill Brandel, Dale Metzger, Dave Burr, D.J. Metzger. Not pictured: Jeff Mallision.

BOWLING LEAGUE

Recreation
Gale Enterprises . . . 18 - 02
Peterson's Saw Service . . . 12 - 08
Chicken Little Joint Pro. . . 10 - 10
Hawk Ridge Golf . . . 10 - 10
Woody Girls' . . . 10 - 10
Glens' Market . . . 07 - 13
Coldwell Bankers . . . 07 - 13
Mickey Perez CPA . . . 06 - 14
High Series: B. Wheeler, 545; M. Starks, 502; V. Balmes, 500; P. Petrosky, 480.
High Game: M. Starks, 192; B. Wheeler, 189; L. Dellar, 182; D. Lobsinger, 181.
Sunday Nite Mixed Doubles
Hart Pontiac-GMC . . . 31 - 11
D.X.R. Computers . . . 26 - 11
Wakeley's Auto Parts . . . 24 - 18
Little Tyke Day Care . . . 22 - 20
Sparks . . . 22 - 20
North Pure Ice . . . 17 - 25
Shady Acres . . . 16 - 26

Calkins Excavating . . . 10 - 32
High Series Men: D. Yanniello, 538; J. Helsel, 536; B. Nielson, 529.
High Game Men: D. Yanniello, 212; J. Helsel, 211; B. Nielson, 211.
High Series Women: S. Romain, 538; M. Miller, 507; T. Day, 482.
High Game Women: T. Day, 219; S. Romain, 209; D. Harris, 185.
Northwood
Hart Pontiac-GMC . . . 15 - 05
Beckett Contracting . . . 14 - 06
North MI Financial . . . 14 - 06
Lucky & Laura's . . . 12 - 08
Grayling Chiropractic . . . 08 - 12
Hometown Furniture . . . 08 - 12
Corky's Karaoke . . . 06 - 14
Calkins Excavating . . . 03 - 17
High Series: T. Day, 537; D. Harris, 523; B. Miller, 492.

High Game: A. Contreras, 196; M. Rock, 193; T. Day, 193.
Friday Mixed Doubles
American Legion . . . 20 - 08
Northern Cafe . . . 16 - 12
Moshier Auto Repair . . . 14 - 14
Double Trouble . . . 14 - 14
Charles Country Corner . . . 13 - 15
Ken's Tire & Auto . . . 13 - 15
Fick & Sons . . . 11 - 17
Piehl's Sawmill . . . 11 - 17
High Series Men: D. Wallace, 612; D. Canfield, 606; C. Hanson, 532.
High Game Men: D. Wallace, 236; D. Canfield, 212; C. Hanson, 203.
High Series Women: D. Medina, 612; S. Johnson, 481; S. Barber, 457.
High Game Women: D. Medina, 226; S. Barber, 184; S. Johnson, 168.

American Men's League
Moore's Automotive . . . 12 - 02
Warren Forest Products 9.5 - 4.5
Scheer Motors . . . 07 - 07
GADCO . . . 07 - 07
Forrest Brothers . . . 07 - 07
Helsel Forest Products . . . 6.5 - 7.5
McLeans Ace . . . 05 - 09
Fenton's Auto Service . . . 02 - 12
High Series: J. Helsel, 668; D. Henning, 665; L. Davis, 618.
High Game: J. Helsel, 267; L. Davis, 243; D. Henning, 234.
Seniors
Grayling Pharmacy . . . 52.5 - 23.5
Cornell Insurance . . . 36.5 - 39.5
Spike's Keg O' Nails . . . 36 - 40
Flowers By Josie . . . 36 - 40
Gray Rock . . . 36 - 40
Sylvester's Sports . . . 36 - 40
Gray Rock . . . 36 - 40
Buccilli's Pizza . . . 35 - 41
Hall's Snow Removal . . . 35 - 41
High Series Men: B. Hollis, 590; K. Louchart, 540; H. Ingram, 537.
High Game Men: B. Hollis, 222; H. Ingram, 189; O. Brantley, 187.
High Series Women: N. Glasslee, 483; W. Finkbeiner, 477; D. Hollis, 447.
High Game Women: W. Finkbeiner, 174; N. Glasslee, 173; D. Hollis, 171.

American Legion Lanes
Avalanche . . . 15 - 05
South Side River Rats . . . 15 - 05
Hawk Ridge Golf . . . 10.5 - 9.5
The Ice House . . . 10.5 - 9.5
Rochettes . . . 10 - 10
Chemical Bank . . . 08 - 12
Custom Interior . . . 06 - 14
McDonalds of Grayling . . . 05 - 15
High Series: C. Jones, 532; H. Stairs, 530; S. Johnson, 505; T. Parker, 504.
High Game: C. LaMotte, 203; H. Stairs, 196; C. Jones, 192; S. Johnson, 190.

POOL LEAGUE

Women's Standings
Swamp . . . 140
Sawmill II . . . 128
Gray Rock . . . 116
American Legion . . . 114
Plaza . . . 111
Frederic Inn . . . 109
Spike's . . . 101
Sawmill I . . . 93
5 Ball Runs: Beth (Plaza), Patsey (Sawmill II), Sandy (Sawmill II), Jeanne (Sawmill I), LaNette (Swamp), Pat (Spike's).
6 Ball Runs: Beth (Plaza), Cheri (Swamp).
7 Ball Runs: LaNette (Swamp).

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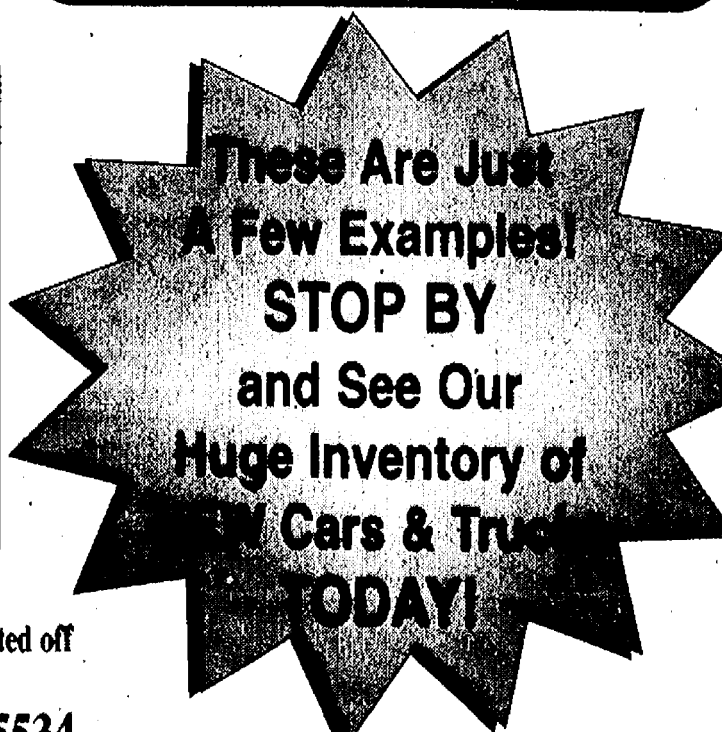
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The 2002-03 Grayling High School freshman girls volleyball team: (front, left to right) Chelsea Papendick, Michelle McGuire, Trisha Kinsey; (middle, left to right) Stacie Dent, Lacy Moore, Samantha Wakeley, Amanda Lutz, Jessica Morley; (back, left to right) Coach Amy Owen, Chelsea Wolcott, Andrea Southard, Krysta Golinick, Brittany Sloan, Tequila Reynolds.

Freshman volleyball team beats Tawas

► Vikings win best of three series by scores of 15-10, 15-11, 15-7

The Vikings of Grayling High School defeated the Tawas Braves 3-0 in a best of three freshman girls volleyball series last Monday at GHS. The Vikings won by scores of 15-10, 15-11, and 15-7.

"Excellent serving during all three games," Coach Amy Owen said. "Amanda Lutz scored seven points in the first game. They are learning to work as a team."

Serving statistics for Grayling included: Lutz, 12/13, 11 points;

Chelsea Wolcott, 5/5, 3 points; Chelsea Papendick, 4/5, 3 points; Michelle McGuire, 7/8, 6 points; Wakeley, 9/9, 7 points.

The team will host Pinconning on Wednesday, February 5 at 6:15 p.m.

Wrestlers split up to tackle two tournaments

► Vikings place well at tourneys in Gaylord and Sault Ste. Marie

The GHS wrestling team split up to compete in two separate tournaments this past Saturday: the 23-team Great Northern Michigan Tournament at Gaylord and a 13-team tourney at Sault Ste. Marie.

At Gaylord, Brandon Pratt (171) placed 2nd in his weight class. He is now 25-5 so far this season. Dusty Partello (152, 19-

3) placed 5th; Darryl Babbitt (160, 19-7) took 5th; Adam Malone (130, 19-12) finished 7th; and Joel Wilson (145, 17-9) placed 6th.

At Sault Ste. Marie, the Vikings posted four 1st place finishes, four 2nd places, and one 3rd. They were: Chuck Woodman (130), 1st; Joe Bancroft (140), 1st; Mike Gassman (152), 1st; Jeremy Handrich (160), 1st; Emily Harvey (103), 2nd; Doug Webb (140), 2nd; Don Starks (171), 2nd; Travis Brush (275), 2nd; Joe Ferrigan (189), 3rd.

"We divided the team and

competed in two tournaments this weekend," said Coach Don Ferguson. "Both tournaments were excellent. They were both great for our wrestlers. The competition was as good as it gets."

On Thursday, January 30 the Vikings wrestle at Tawas. On Saturday, February 1 the team

will compete in the Gladwin Invitational.

The Grayling High School wrestling team will host a meet (vs. Kalkaska and Traverse City) on Thursday, February 6 at 6 p.m. The meet will include "Parents Night" for the GHS wrestlers.

Ski teams defeat Harrison, fall to Mt. Pleasant

Continued from Page 1B

Jon Handy placed 2nd and 4th in slalom and 4th and 7th in GS, earning 17 team points. Pat McNally had 20 team points, placing 3rd and 8th in slalom and 3rd and 6th in GS.

Jansen had 28 team points. He placed 4th overall with two 1st place finishes in GS and then the "snake" got his ski in the start of the slalom races as it popped off in the starting gate.

Adam Gilbert and Eric Hunter each had 32 team points with Gilbert placing 7th and 10th in

slalom and 10th in both GS races. Hunter was 4th and 9th in slalom as the "snake" grabbed him in the second slalom run, causing him to fall. He finished 7th and 12th in the GS races.

The losses to Mt. Pleasant set up a shoot-out for the conference crown at the upcoming league meet, barring any other losses this week. Mt. Pleasant leads Grayling's girls by five points in the league standings, and Grayling's boys are now tied for first place in the conference with Mt. Pleasant.

Paul Olson Municipal Underwriters of Michigan

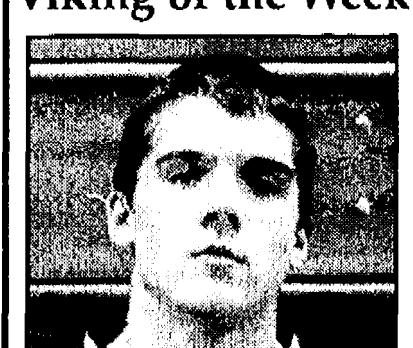
Vikings of the Week



HEATHER VANDECAR & PAT MCNALLY

Heather had two wins in slalom at Snowsnake on Thursday. She led the girls against both Harrison and Mt. Pleasant. Pat had two 3rds and a 6th & 8th in four races under "must finish" conditions last week.

Wendy's Viking of the Week



BRANDON PRATT

Brandon wrestled very well at the 23-team Great Northern Michigan Tournament at Gaylord on Saturday. He placed 2nd in the 171-pound weight class and now has a season record of 25-5.

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SEGMENT I: 24 Hours Lecture, 6 Hours Driving, Teen Classes Start: 3 Weeks
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April 30-May 29** M, W, TH 7:00-9:00 p.m. (Make-up day 5/29/03)
(**No class Memorial Day, 5/26/03)

SEGMENT II: \$30, 6 Hours Lecture Defensive Driving, Teen Classes Meet: 3 Days
February 20, 24, 26 TH, M, W 5:00-7:00 p.m.
May 1, 5, 7 TH, M, W 5:00-7:00 p.m.
June 2, 4, 5 M, W, TH 7:00-9:00 p.m.

LOCAL TEACHERS: Darrin Hawes (Grayling HS), Larry Austin and Jim Shepler

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Kirtland Community College
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Alzheimer's Support Group

Tuesday, February 25th, 2003
at 10:00 a.m.
At the Grayling Nursing Centre
331 Meadows Dr., Grayling, MI 49738

Support Group meetings will usually be held the last Tuesday of every month at 10:00 a.m. at the Grayling Nursing Centre.

We will provide respite care with activities for your loved one with Alzheimer's during the meeting. Direct questions to MaryKay @ 348-2801

Community Centre Group

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JV team 10-0 at halfway point

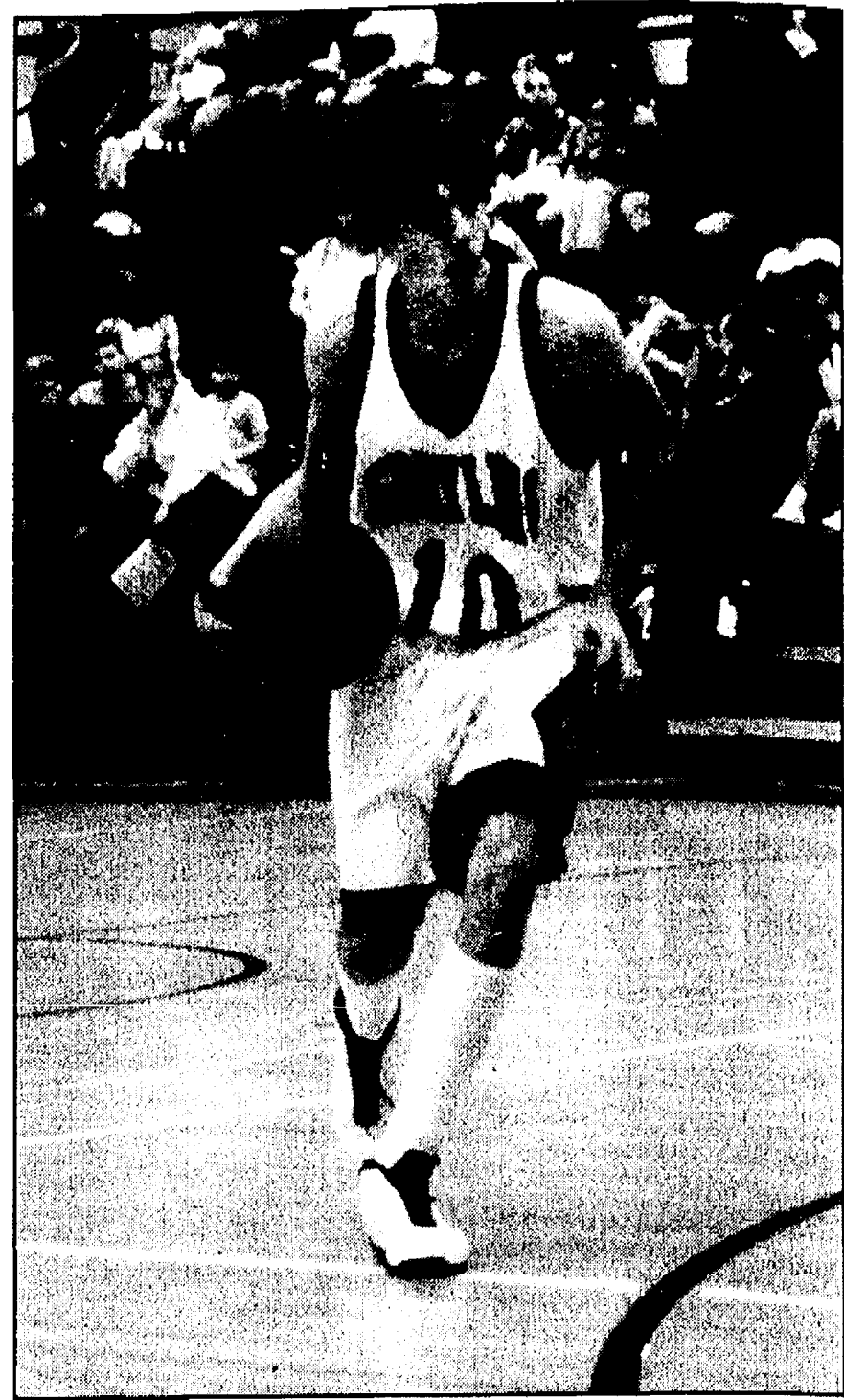
Continued from Page 1B

With a 20-11 second quarter, the Vikings extended their lead to 16 by halftime. Grayling scored its 20 points on jumpers by Schmidt and Davis, a three-point play by Jess Bobenmoyer, lay-ups by Schmidt and D.J. Metzger, a triple by Metzger, a jump shot by Hinkle, a lay-up by Schmidt, and a put-back by Russ Peters.

The Vikings put forth another strong quarter, outscoring Tawas 18-6 in the third period. The Braves scored their six on a pair of three-point shots. Grayling scored 18 on three baskets by Schmidt, a three-point play and a lay-up by Hinkle, a put-back by Peters, a jumper by Davis, and free throws by Millikin and Hinkle.

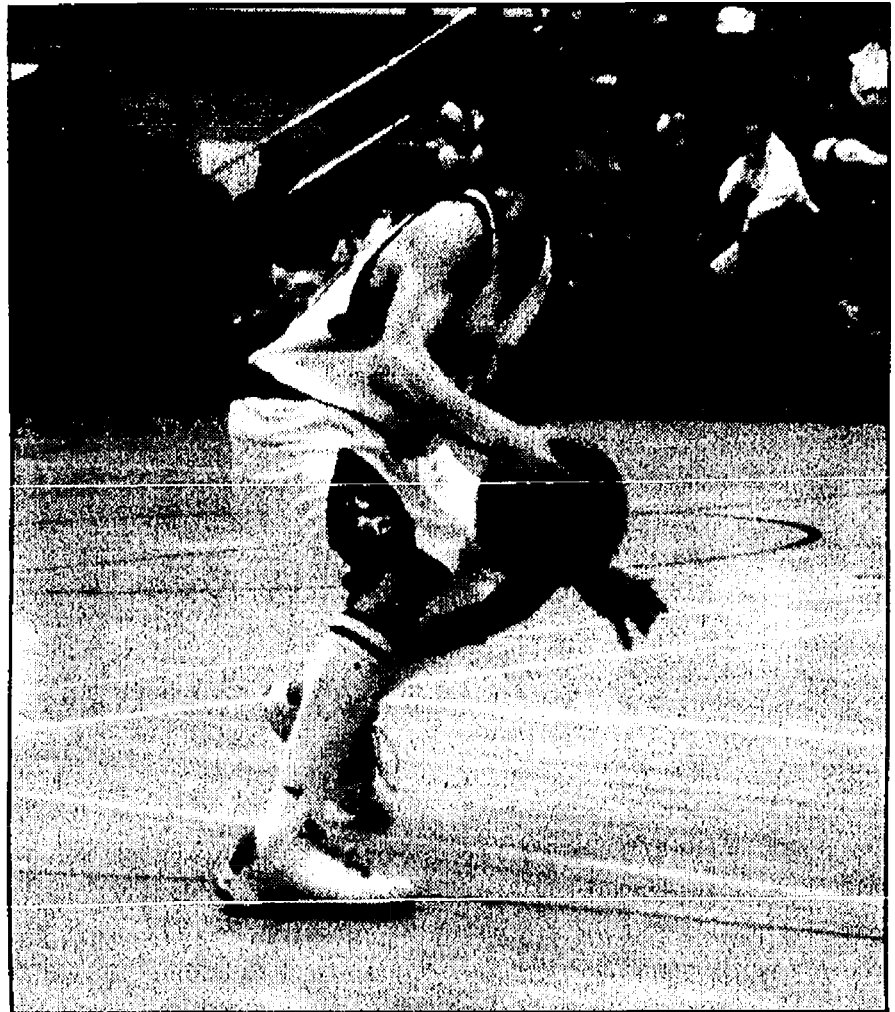
Grayling outscored Tawas 15-14 in the fourth quarter to seal the win.

The Vikings scored their 15 points on a lay-up by Bobenmoyer, shots inside by Millikin and Alex McNamara, a three-point play by McNamara, a

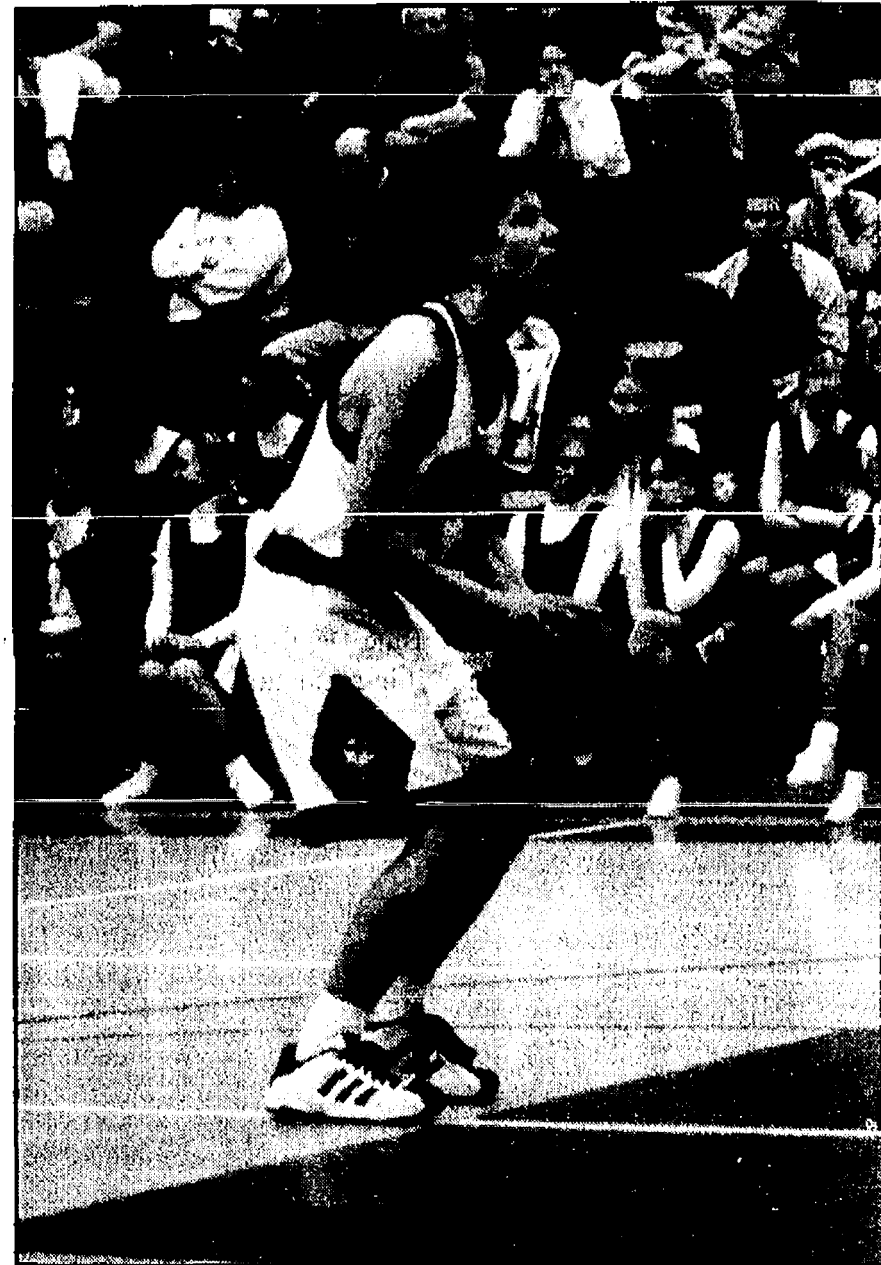


Photos by Caleb Casey

Alex McNamara handles the ball for the Vikings in the Tawas game on Tuesday night.



Ryan Schmidt controls the ball for Grayling in the JV match vs. Tawas last Tuesday.



Tyler Cragg sets up for a free throw shot in last week's JV basketball game at GHS.

KIRTLAND BASKETBALL

Mens Team

ROSCOMMON - Jeremy Rau scored 12 points and hauled down a game-high 17 rebounds and Alvaidas Gedminas had 14 points and 11 rebounds to power Kirtland to an 86-75 victory Wednesday over Macomb.

Reuben Edwards had 22 points and Terrance Coker 15 for Kirtland, 4-2 in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association and 9-8 overall after its fourth win in five games.

Martell Summers had a game-high 23 points and William Harris had 16 for Macomb, 2-3 in the conference and 8-9 overall.

DETROIT - Anthony Butler had 24 points to lead Wayne County Community College to an 82-73 victory Saturday over Kirtland.

Alvaidas Gedminas had 26 points and 20 rebounds for Kirtland, which fell to 9-9 overall and 4-3 in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association. Reuben Edwards had 17 points and Jake Milarch added 10 for the Firebirds, who entered the game tied with Wayne for third in the MCCA's 10-team Eastern Conference. The top six teams qualify for the state tournament.

Aaron Penoy had 18 points for Wayne, which improved to 5-2

Womens Team

ROSCOMMON - Becca Miller had 26 points and Angela Krugler had 17 points and 10 rebounds to lead Kirtland to a 72-58 win Wednesday over Macomb.

Jeni Kemp contributed 10 points, nine rebounds and six assists to help the Lady Firebirds win their second straight game after four losses. They're 2-4 in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association and 7-11 overall.

Kirtland made 27 of 36 shots from the free-throw line and out-rebounded Macomb, 48-33.

Melissa Keefe scored 15 points, Kacie Girgenti and Barbara Dudek had 11 each and Ashley Wagner had 10 for Macomb, 1-4 in the conference and 6-11 overall.

DETROIT - Chavon Haskins scored 32 points and hauled down 22 rebounds to power Wayne County Community College to a 79-51 win Saturday over Kirtland.

Jillian Schultz had 14 to lead Kirtland, which fell to 2-5 in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association and 7-12 overall.

Wayne led 42-17 at halftime en route to improving to 4-3 in the conference and 11-8 overall.

Baseball program sets clinic, meeting

► Clinic to be held February 15; Team meeting set for February 8

The Grayling High School baseball program, under the direction of new head coach Bob Gorski, will be offering a baseball clinic on Saturday, February 15.

The clinic, to be held at

Grayling Middle School, will be for players age 9-18. Coach Gorski and his staff will instruct participants on the fundamentals of hitting, pitching, infield, outfield, and catching.

Players will be broken up into two age groups: 9-12 will go from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and 13-18 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Participants must bring tennis shoes, gloves, and work-out clothes.

Also, players will have the

option to sign up for the second portion of the clinic to be held at a later date. At that time, players will be videotaped on their hitting. The fee for both dates is \$20, which includes a Grayling baseball cap and video.

Sign up for the clinic at Sylvester's or pick up applications at the elementary, middle, or high school offices.

Little League coaches can attend the clinics for a fee of

\$20. Coaches will receive a Grayling baseball cap and a coaching notebook on all phases of baseball.

Also, all GHS baseball players will have a team meeting on Saturday, February 8 at the Grayling Middle School cafeteria from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Coffee and doughnuts will be provided. The new 2003 baseball coaching staff for GHS will be introduced and expectations will be discussed.

Freshman team loses in overtime

Continued from Page 1B

and a free throw by Zach Dean to take a one-point lead.

A put-back by Dean and a triple by Schmidt put the Vikings up 25-21. A three-point play and a free throw by Gaylord tied the game at 25-25. Grayling scored the last two baskets of the first half — a jumper by Baker and a triple by Schmidt — to lead 30-25 at halftime.

Gaylord caught up in the third quarter. The Blue Devils edged Grayling 18-13 in the period to leave the game tied at 43-43

going into the fourth quarter. The Vikings scored their 13 points on three drives, a free throw, and a three-point play by VanNuck and a triple by Ryan Feldhauser.

Gaylord scored first in the fourth with a shot inside. Grayling tied it with a lay-up by VanNuck. The Blue Devils scored to go back up by two. A jumper by Dean tied the contest at 47-47.

A lay-up by Schmidt on a pass from VanNuck gave Grayling a two-point edge at the 3:37 mark. Gaylord scored the next two baskets to leave the Vikings trailing by two. Two free throws by VanNuck tied the game at 51-51 with 1:42 left in the game.

Gaylord scored a jumper with 1:30 remaining to take a two-point edge.

Grayling missed the shot to answer, and Gaylord rebounded. The Blue Devils then turned the ball over with an over-and-back violation. The Vikings tied the game at 53-53 with a jump shot by VanNuck.

Gaylord turned the ball over, giving the Vikings possession with 30 seconds left in regulation. Grayling killed clock to play for the last shot. Gaylord forced a turnover before the Vikings got a shot off, and the Blue Devils had a chance to end it in regulation. With six seconds on the clock, Gaylord got the ball in and fired a shot. It didn't go in. The game headed into overtime.

Gaylord held Grayling scoreless in the overtime period and won by a final score of 64-53, handing the Vikings their first defeat of the season.

VanNuck was the leading scorer for Grayling with 24 points. On defense, he had 6 steals. Schmidt had 12 points, 4 steals, and 6 assists. Baker scored 9, grabbed 9 rebounds, and had 4 steals. Dean finished with 5 points and 4 boards.



Photos by Caleb Casey

Zeke Hayes takes a shot from inside the paint in last Wednesday's game against Gaylord.

On Tuesday, the Vikings defeated Tawas 57-54 in Grayling.

Schmidt had 14 points and 6 steals for GHS. VanNuck scored 13 and had 4 rebounds. Baker finished with 11 points and 9 rebounds. Zeke Hayes scored 6 and snagged 3 boards.

On Monday, February 3 the Vikings will host Oscoda at 6:15 p.m.



Eli VanNuck shoots from the free throw line in the Gaylord game on Wednesday night.

Surprise Your Valentine
with a Valentine greeting in the Avalanche.

Deadline is Monday, February 10th to appear in the February 13th issue.

AVALANCHE
102 Mich. Ave. • Grayling • 348 6811

Open: Monday through Friday 9 am to 5 pm

LEGAL ACTION

Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

MORTGAGE SALE - Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Donald L. Welser and Lydia Welser, husband and wife of Grayling, Michigan 49738 and Jayson S. Welser and Michelle Welser, husband and wife of 2601 Hidden Ridge Court, Grayling, Michigan 49738 to First National Bank of Gaylord, 501 W. Main Street, Gaylord, Michigan 49735, dated August 31, 2001 and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds, for the County of Crawford, and State of Michigan, on September 4, 2001, in Liber 0551 Pages 322 through 325 Crawford County Records, and on which there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, for principal, interest and late fees,

the sum of \$146,546.74.

As no suit or other legal proceedings have been filed to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage; Now, therefore, by virtue of the power of sale contained in the mortgage, and pursuant to the statutes of the State of Michigan, NOTICE is hereby given that on Wednesday, the 5th day of March, 2003 at 10:00 o'clock a.m. the mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at public auction to the highest bidder, at the main entrance to the County Building in the City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan of that premises described in the mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due, on the mortgage, with interest thereon at the contract rate and all legal charges and expenses, including the attorney fees allowed by law, and also any sums which may be paid by the mortgagee to protect its interest in the premises.

The premises are described as follows: Land situated in the City of Grayling, County of Crawford, State of Michigan, described as:

The North 50 feet of Lot 1, Block 2,

HADLEY'S THIRD ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE (NOW CITY) OF GRAYLING, thence West 180 feet, thence South 120 feet, thence East 180 feet, thence North 120 feet to the Point of Beginning. Being formerly lots 3, 4 and 5, Block 2, HADLEY'S THIRD ADDITION and also the South 33 feet of vacated Clare Street lying Northerly and adjacent thereto.

The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be thirty (30) days from the date of the sale. Dated: January 22, 2003
BODMAN, LONGLEY & DAHLING LLP
Amy J. Durant (P54777)
Debt Collector for First National Bank of Gaylord
229 Court Street
P.O. Box 405
Cheboygan, MI 49721
(231) 627-4351

-30-06-13-20-27

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February 1st ~ 9 AM - 10 PM



Roscommon High School



Roscommon Community Jazz Ensemble



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Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs
Region 19 Roscommon Metropolitan Recreation Authority



FEATURING

The New Reformation Band

With the Opperman Brothers

Schedule

9:00	Roscommon Middle School
10:00	Roscommon Jazz Ensemble
11:00	Grayling High School
12:00	Sparta High School
1:00	St. Louis High School
2:00	Roscommon High School
7:00	Encore Performances and the New Reformation Band

\$6 Adults

Roscommon High School Auditorium

\$4 Students

LEGAL ACTION

Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information we obtain will be used for that purpose. Please contact our office at the number below if you are in active military duty.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Richard L. Hoag, married man and Angel R. Hoag, his wife (original mortgagors) to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., Mortgagee, dated January 25, 2002, and recorded on March 15, 2002 in Liber 0573 on Page 292 in Crawford County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Ten Thousand Two Hundred Seventy and 59/100 dollars (\$110,270.59), including interest at 7.000% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in Grayling, Michigan at 10:00 a.m., on March 5, 2003.

Said premises are situated in Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

Lot 28, Davenport's Pine Acres, as recorded in Liber 3, of Plats, Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be 6 month(s) from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 30, 2003
For information, please call:
Team X (248) 593-1302
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
30400 Telegraph Road, Suite 200
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200311289
Team X

-30-06-13-20

recorded on October 30, 2001 in Liber 558 on Page 20 in Crawford County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Seventy-Four Thousand Two Hundred Seventy-Six and 03/100 dollars (\$74,276.03), including interest at 8.875% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in Grayling, Michigan at 10:00 a.m., on March 5, 2003.

Said premises are situated in Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

Parcel 4-C: Being a part of the NW 1/4 section 33, T27N, R3W and described as: Commencing at the North 1/4 corner of Section 33; thence S00°58'00"W along the 1/4 line 727.45 feet to the Southerly right of way line of Jones Lake Road; thence along said right of way line (next 3 courses) S53°45'00"W 201.5 feet; thence S58°10'00"W 689.55 feet; thence S52°03'00"W 676.65 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence S36°47'22"E (recorded as S36°49'00"E) 272.07 feet; thence S52°03'00"W 400.71 feet; thence N36°38'44"W (recorded as N36°42'30"W) 272.08 feet; thence N52°03'00"E, along the Southerly right of way of Jones Lake Road 400.0 feet to the Place of Beginning. SUBJECT TO a 66 foot wide easement for ingress and egress and installation and maintenance of public utilities, 33 feet each side of the Southwesterly line of Parcel 4 as delineated on a survey recorded in Liber 122, Page 473; Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be 6 month(s) after the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 30, 2003
For information, please call:
Team X (248) 593-1302
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
30400 Telegraph Road, Suite 200
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200311491
Team X

-30-06-13-20

and recorded on September 3, 1998 in Liber 462 on Page 93 in Crawford County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Thirty-Four Thousand One Hundred Thirty-One and 20/100 dollars (\$34,131.20), including interest at 6.000% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in Grayling, Michigan at 10:00 a.m., on February 26, 2003.

Said premises are situated in City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

Being part of the Northwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 8, Town 26 North, Range 3 West, City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan described as: Commencing at the Southwest corner of Northwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section 8, Town 26 North, Range 3 West, thence South 89 degrees 59 minutes East 517 feet, thence North 1 Degree 33 minutes East, 656 feet to the Point of Beginning, thence continuing North 1 degree, 33 minutes East, 281.3 feet to the Southeasterly bank of the AuSable River; thence South 64 degrees 28 minutes West along river, 184.85 feet; thence South 24 degrees 03 minutes West along river, 220.3 feet; thence South 8 degrees 50 minutes East along river, 87.0 feet; thence South 89 degrees, 59 minutes East, 133.2 feet; thence North 1 degree, 33 minutes East, 149.0 feet; thence South 89 degrees 55 minutes East, 100.0 feet to the Point of Beginning. The above description of land is the combination of Parcels A and E of Survey recorded in Liber 134, page 79 and of Parcel A of Survey recorded in Liber 153, page 458, Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be 6 month(s) from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 23, 2003
For information, please call:
Team J (248) 593-1311
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
30400 Telegraph Road, Suite 200
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200018865
Team J

-23-30-06-13

111, such Mortgage being given to secure two Promissory Notes payable to the Government; and by reason of such default the Mortgagee elects to declare the entire unpaid amount of such Mortgage due and payable forthwith, on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date of this notice, for principal and interest, the sum of Sixty Six Thousand Five Hundred Four and 87/100 (\$66,504.87) Dollars, and no proceedings having been instituted at law or equity to recover the debt now remaining secured by said Mortgage, or any part thereof, whereby the power of sale contained in said Mortgage has become operative;

Now, Therefore, Notice is Hereby Given that by virtue of the power of sale contained in said Mortgage and in pursuance of the statute of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, the said Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the premises therein described or so much thereof as may be necessary, at public auction, to the highest bidder, at the south door of the County Building at 200 West Michigan Avenue in the City of Grayling, County of Crawford, Michigan, that being the place of holding the Circuit Court in and for said County on the 12th day of February, 2003 at 10:00 a.m., local time, and said premises will be sold to pay the amount due as aforesaid on the Mortgage together with 11.875% percent interest, legal costs, attorneys' fees and also any taxes and insurance that said Mortgagee does pay on or prior to the date of said sale; which said premises described in said Mortgage are situated in the County of Crawford and State of Michigan, and are described as:

Lots 12 and 13, Oak Acres Park, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 49, Crawford County Records. SUBJECT to building and use restrictions as contained in instrument recorded at Liber 49, Page 453, Crawford County Records.

During the six (6) months immediately following the sale, the property may be redeemed unless the property is abandoned, in which case the redemption shall be thirty (30) days from the date of sale.

For further information with regard to this foreclosure, contact USDA - Rural Development, 1501 Cass Street, Suite A, Traverse City, Michigan, 49684, telephone (231) 941-0951.

Dated: January 15, 2003
Michael I. Conlon (P43954)
Running, Wise & Ford P.L.C.
326 E. State Street, P.O. Box 686
Traverse City, MI 49685-0686
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
acting through the Farmers Home Administration, (now known as Rural Development), United States Dept. of Agriculture, Mortgagee

-16-23-30-06

Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information we obtain will be used for that purpose. Please contact our office at the number below if you are in active military duty.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Kent E. Bowman and Carmela C. Bowman, husband and wife (original mortgagors) to Charter One Bank, F.S.B., Mortgagee, dated August 29, 1996, and recorded on September 3, 1996 in Liber 417 on Page 213 in Crawford County Records, Michigan, on

which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Five Thousand Seven Hundred Eighteen and 82/100 dollars (\$105,718.82), including interest at 8.750% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in Grayling, Michigan at 10:00 a.m., on February 19, 2003.

Said premises are situated in Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

a part of the Southeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 8, Town 26 North, Range 3 West, commencing at the Northwest corner of same and running thence North 89 degrees 40 minutes East on the North line thereof, 424.5 feet; thence South 0 degrees 35 minutes West 137.2 feet, to the center of roadway; thence South 52 degrees 47 minutes East along same, 174 feet to the P.O.B.; thence South 82 degrees 47 minutes East along center of roadway, 60 feet; thence South 33 degrees 04 minutes East 567.5 feet, to the Northerly bank of the AuSable River; thence South 59 degrees 32 minutes West along said bank, 200 feet; thence North 18 degrees 36 minutes West 616.8 feet, to P.O.B.; said tract includes all land to the waters edge, Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be 6 month(s) from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 16, 2003
For information, please call:
Team W (248) 593-1312
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
30400 Telegraph Road, Suite 200
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200310462
Team W

-16-23-30-06

Notice of Public Comment Period Crawford County Housing Program Grant 2003

The Crawford County Board of Commissioners and the Crawford County Housing Program are seeking public comment for the submission of a 2003 Housing Preservation Grant Program (HPG). Written comments will be accepted until 4:30 p.m., February 14, 2003 and should be mailed to: Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency, Inc. 2375 Gordon Road, Alpena, MI 49707. A statement of activities proposed within the grant will be available to the public at the Crawford County Housing Office, 203 Huron Street, Grayling, MI 49738.

-30

SYNOPSIS GRAYLING TOWNSHIP BOARD Regular Meeting January 8, 2003

Members Present: Tom Hall, Cynthia Timmons, Ruth O'Mara, Monica Ashton, Terry Wright.

Members Absent: None.
Others Present: Sheriff Kirk Wakefield, Deputy Jason Alexander, Curt Marshall, Fred Atchison.

Supervisor Wright called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.
Motion by O'Mara, second by Timmons, to approve minutes of December 11, 2002, as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

Treasurer's report for December was distributed for comments and placed on file.

No Correspondence.

1. Citizens Who Wish To Speak: Fred Atchison, Eagle Point resident, distributed photos and voiced concern regarding traffic and parked vehicles blocking driveways and mail boxes towards the end of Eagle Point Road where it accesses Lake Margrethe. This is an increasing winter problem when ice fishermen are trying to access the east bay.

Sheriff Wakefield and Supervisor Wright will submit article to Avalanche requesting people be conscientious of where they are parking. The matter will also be placed on the agenda of a public hearing tentatively scheduled for May 2003 regarding several matters at Lake Margrethe.

2. Motion by Timmons, second by Hall, to accept the resignation of Pat Merrill from the Grayling Township Planning Commission due to his relocation in the Upper Peninsula. All ayes, motion carried.

3. Motion by Timmons, second by Hall, to confirm the recommendation of Supervisor Wright to appoint Geraldine Hood to the Grayling Township Planning

Commission. All ayes, motion carried.

4. Sheriff Wakefield updated the board on various activities of his Department including ongoing "blight patrols". January patrols scheduled for January 13 and January 23, 2003.

5. Grayling City and Township Fire Department Year End Report for 2002 was distributed and placed on file.

6. Motion by O'Mara, second by Timmons, to approve payment of claims on vouchers 900 through 934. Guardian Dental \$629.79, Board Fees \$70.00, and Liquor Inspections \$90.00 for a grand total of \$104,685.82. All ayes, motion carried.

7. Motion by Ashton, carried, to adjourn. All ayes, (8:00 p.m.)
Monica S. Ashton, C.M.C.
Grayling Township Clerk

SYNOPSIS BEAVER CREEK TOWNSHIP BOARD Regular Meeting January 13, 2003

The regular meeting of the Beaver Creek Township Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members present: Riley, Mobarak, Little and Hartman. Absent: Balmes. There were 8 guests present.

Motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Seconded and carried.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Seconded and carried.

Reports given by Supervisor, and the Fire Chief regarding the Fire Department and Township Planning.

There were 7 pieces of correspondence.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion by Mobarak and seconded by Little to accept the Resolution for Computerized Tax Roll. Ayes: 4, nays: 0. Motion carried.

2. Motion by Mobarak and supported by Hartman to accept the Road Project Participation Policy as presented. Ayes: 4, nays: 0. Motion carried.

3. Motion by Mobarak and seconded by Little to accept the Poverty Guidelines as presented. Ayes: 4, nays: 0. Motion carried.

4. Motion by Riley and seconded to reappoint the current Board of Review members: Harland, Parkinson and Summers, for another two years. Ayes: 4, nays: 0. Motion carried.

5. Motion to pay AP bills, seconded and motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.
Sharon K. Hartman
Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: James A. Kuenzel Self-Trustee Revocable Trust SS#362-40-1216 (Social Security Number of Decedent)

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS Your interest in the estate may be barred or affected by the following: The decedent, James A. Kuenzel, whose last known address was 6301 Clara's Way, Grayling, Michigan, 49738, died on December 28, 2002.

The decedent was the Grantor of the James A. Kuenzel Self-Trustee Revocable Trust ("Trust").

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Trust will be forever barred unless presented to the current acting Co-Trustees (whose names and addresses appear below) of the Trust within four (4) months of the date of publication of this notice.

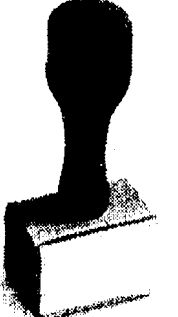
The current acting Successor Co-trustees are: William M. Fury, 308 W. Main, P.O. Box 1000, Gaylord, MI, 49734, and Darby A. Kuenzel, 15350 157th Ave., Big Rapids, MI 49307.

Notice is further given that the Trust will be thereafter assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

Dated: January 23, 2003
Attorney for Successor Co-Trustees: William M. Fury P13767

Bensinger, Cotant & Menkes, P.C.
308 West Main Street
P.O. Box 1000
Gaylord, MI 49734
(989) 732-7536
(989) 732-4922 - fax
www.bcma.net

-30



NEED RUBBER STAMPS?

Come see us at
The Crawford County Avalanche
102 Mich. Ave. • Grayling
(989) 348-6811

USDA-FOREST SERVICE HURON-MANISTEE NATIONAL FORESTS FOREST PLAN REVISION PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Huron-Manistee National Forests (Forest) will hold a series of Forest Plan Revision public meetings in February 2003. The purpose of these meetings is to continue public orientation on various elements of the Forest Plan Revision process, including Landtype Associations, Recreation Opportunity Spectrums, Species Viability Assessments, and Social-economic Assessments. The focus of these meetings will be to share the results of the November Listening Sessions. There will also be discussion on the preliminary direction the Huron-Manistee National Forests is heading toward in revising its Forest Plan. The public meetings will be held from 6-10 pm at the following locations:

February 18 - Best Western Conference Center on M-55 West, Cadillac, MI.

February 19 - Chittenden Environmental Center on Hwy. 55, Wellston, MI

February 19 - Pleasant Plains Township Hall, Baldwin, MI

February 20 - Mio Community Center, Mio, MI

February 20 - Oscoda Library, Oscoda, MI

February 25 - Ladies Literary Club, 61 Sheldon Boulevard, Grand Rapids, MI

February 26 - Michigan State University, Natural Resources Building, Room 221, East Lansing, MI

February 27 - University of Michigan Dearborn Campus, School of Management Lecture Hall B, Dearborn, MI

Information on the Forest Plan Revision processes for the Hiawatha and Ottawa National Forests will also be made available at these meetings.

Complete information concerning these meetings and Forest Plan revision is available to the public from Dianne Roycraft at the USDA-Forest Service, Huron-Manistee National Forests, 1755 S. Mitchell Street, Cadillac, MI 49601 (phone (231) 775-2421, TTY (231) 775-3183). Requests for accommodations for special needs may be submitted to Dianne. Information will also be available in late January on the Huron-Manistee National Forests' website at www.fs.fed.us/r9/hmnl.

PUBLIC NOTICE CRAWFORD COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY PROPOSED STATE AND FEDERAL SECTION 5311 (FORMER SECTION 18) APPLICATION FOR OPERATING AND CAPITAL ASSISTANCE

All citizens are advised that the Crawford County Transportation Authority (CCTA) has prepared an application for State of Michigan financial assistance for fiscal year 2004, as required under Act 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, as amended and for federal Section 5311 (former Section 18) assistance as required under the Federal Transit Act, as amended.

The CCTA is requesting Five Hundred Twenty-Nine Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-Four Dollars (\$529,424) in state operating assistance for general public transit services; One Hundred Thirty-Two Thousand Three Hundred Fifty-Six Dollars (\$132,356) for Federal Section 5311 operating assistance; and approximately Nine Hundred Eighty-Three Thousand Dollars (\$983,000) in capital support for replacement vehicles, facility improvements, and other equipment.

The proposed application is stored on an electronic file at the CCTA administrative offices and may be reviewed by the public subsequent to January 15, 2003. An appointment can be scheduled to review the application by telephoning 348-8215.

Written comments regarding the application and/or written requests for a public hearing to review the application must be received by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, February 28, 2003. If a hearing is requested, notice of the scheduled date, time, and location will be provided at least 10 days in advance.

Submittals should be mailed to:

Crawford County Transportation Authority
4276 West North Down River Road
Grayling, Michigan 49738

"The Crawford County Transportation Authority is an EOE/AA Organization"
"Proposals from Certified DBE/WBE Vendors are Requested"

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notices in Newspapers.
Your Right to Know, Delivered Right to Your Door.

MNI
MICHIGAN NEWSPAPERS, INC.
the Michigan Newspaper Association
MPA
MICHIGAN PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

FACTS AND FEATURES

A LOOK AT OUR PAST FROM THE PAGES OF THE AVALANCHE

23 Years Ago

January 31, 1980

A motion to donate \$4000 to the Crawford County Ambulance Fund Drive in increments of \$2000 each over the next two years was unanimously approved by the City Council. This pushes the drive campaign to 93 percent of the total needed.

An old fashioned Grayling Winter Carnival sleigh ride from the Railroad Depot to the Hanson Hills Ski Area and return will be done on a one time only feature during the annual event.

The skating rink at Hanson Hills is another first in modern times and will be formally opened for the public use during the Winter Carnival on Saturday. The Grayling Booster Club will furnish the lighting for the rink so that it will be open during the same hours as night skiing.

For the first time in many years, the young ladies entered in the Miss Grayling Winter Sports Queen competition will be spotlighted in a pageant separate from other Winter Carnival activities. The 15 entrants include Corena Hall, Lisa Eshenroder, Suzy Nicholas, Toni Trudgeon, Jeanne Lange, Barbara

Hoffman, Kim Wheeler, Tami Goss, Starrla Baade, Cindy Patnode, Miranda Canfield, Susan Weeber, Cheryl Carlson, Michelle Bancroft and Nancy Bitner.

Everything is in readiness for this year's White Pine Stampede on February 2nd. The event drew 300 cross country ski racers last year and is Michigan's longest point-to-point 50 km. cross country ski event.

The Grayling ski teams swept all four races from Cheboygan on Wednesday. Lead by a pair of first place victories by Jean Wieland and John Huss, the girls won the slalom race and the giant slalom race. The boys also won the races by scores 12-3- and 10-28. Other participants in the meet were Stephanie Fick, Sheri Wieland, Toni Trudgeon, Mika Fijolek, Shelly Kammer and Terri Fijolek.

Jann Treston, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. "Bud" Treston of Okemos and Grayling, has been chosen to attend the Winter Olympics in Lake Placid, New York, as a member of the National Ski Patrol. She is Michigan's only representative on the patrol and one of the youngest.

Burt Partello and Jerry Lucksted brought home first

place individual medals and Grayling fourth place finish in the Algonac Invitational Wrestling Tournament Saturday.

Citizens of Crawford County turned out to support the community projects of the Grayling Rotary Club as over 600 people filled the tables at the popular fish fry. The diners consumed 350 pounds of fish, 300 pounds of french fries, 136 pounds of salad, 60 dozen rolls and over 50 gallons of coffee in the four hour eat-a-thon.

46 Years Ago

January 31, 1957

Fire of a still undetermined nature broke out in Dawson's store on Friday morning. The building, stock and fixtures were completely wiped out in the most spectacular blaze to hit Grayling in two years.

Grayling Viking Bob Strong has placed sixth in the scoring in the first half of the basketball season's scoring in the Northern Class C Conference play.

Eight new M-47 heavy tanks have been delivered at Camp Grayling for use in Training Guard members next summer. The tanks are equipped with 90 millimeter guns.

Five separate groups, totaling nearly 700 people added to the influx of other winter sports fans to give the Grayling Winter Sports Park its biggest weekend thus far this season.

The Frederic Eagles tri-

umphed for their twelfth straight game and their seventh consecutive conference victory as they downed Rapid City Friday night.

Showing this week is the movie "Sharkfighters" in Cinemascope-Technicolor, starring Victor Mature.

69 Years Ago

February 1, 1934

Anticipation for the birthday ball for the President budded into realization Tuesday evening when a very fair sized crowd gathered at the school gymnasium to participate with 6000 other crowds scattered through the United States in the nation-wide celebration of the fifty-second birthday of President Roosevelt.

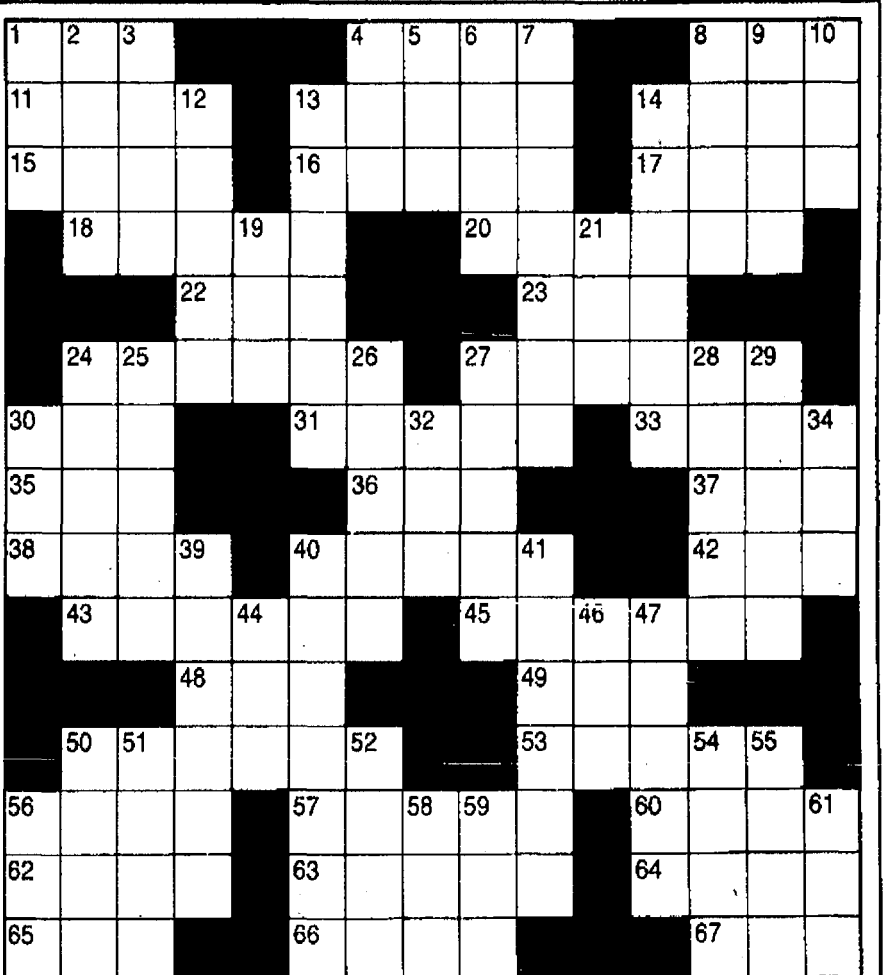
The farmers of Maple Forest are beginning to get up their ice. It is reported to be in good condition, being fourteen inches thick.

92 Years Ago

February 2, 1911

Our band has been participating very diligently this winter for their coming concert, on Washington's Birthday, February 22nd, which will surpass any one they have ever produced here. Ex-Sheriff Amidon who has been visiting "the old folks at home" returned Monday, somewhat rested but not yet entirely recovered from his severe illness.

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Actress Scala
4. French naturalist
8. Presidential nickname
11. Curvature
13. Hopeless case
14. Partial: prefix
15. Traditional knowledge
16. Bay horses
17. Cigar-hawking Adams
18. Impudence
20. Looked after
22. Tool's mate
23. Egg drink
24. Map parts
27. Colliers
30. Frost, as a cake
31. Part of SST
33. Appear to be
35. Downturn
36. Rockefeller riches source
37. Farm male
38. Med. subj.
40. Heavens supporter
42. Land measure
43. Shining
45. Hosiery
48. College yell
49. Capone's group, informally

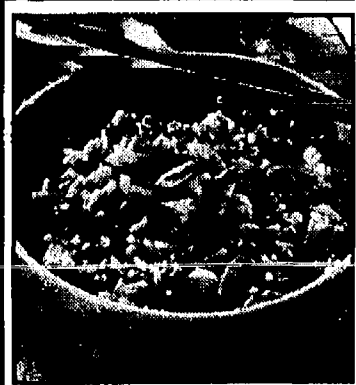
DOWN

1. Woman from Kalamazoo
2. ___ Man (Ayres film)
3. Measure for Old MacDonald
4. San Diego attraction
5. Stop ___ dime (2 wds.)
6. Gave temporarily
7. Poison popular with mystery writers
8. Yield by treaty
9. Included with
10. After the truth
12. Groups of livestock
13. Hails
14. Bushy fences

19. Compete
21. Pierree's refusal
24. Cake feature
25. King Birendra's land
26. Like a chimney, come spring
27. La Scala's city
28. Showed again
29. Where to buy a Kenmore
30. Crete peak
32. Goose egg
34. Mrs., in Metz
39. Very hot
40. Mortified
41. Periodic table feature
44. Saint, in Recife
46. Singer Rawls
47. Wind instruments
50. Cough fraught with meaning
51. Forbids
52. Boat with flaring sides
54. Workout spot
55. Polluted air
56. It's past "due"
58. Refrain bit
59. Like a ___ of bricks
61. ___ loss for words (2 wds.)

ANSWERS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

RECIPE OF THE WEEK



Savory Skillet Broccoli

- 1 Tbsp. Bertolli Olive Oil
- 6 cups fresh broccoli florets or 1 lb. green beans, trimmed
- 1-1/2 cups water
- 1 env. Lipton Recipe Secrets Onion Soup Mix
1. In 12-inch skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat and cook broccoli, stirring occasionally, 2 minutes.
2. Stir in soup mix blended with water; bring to a boil.
3. Reduce heat to medium-low and simmer covered, 6 minutes or until broccoli is tender.

Easy Fried Rice

- 1/4 cup Bertolli Olive Oil
- 4 cups cooked rice

- 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 1 env. Lipton Recipe Secrets Onion Soup Mix
- 1/2 cup water
- 1 Tbsp. soy sauce
- 1 cup frozen peas and carrots, partially thawed
- 2 eggs, slightly beaten
1. In 12-inch nonstick skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat and cook rice and garlic, stirring constantly, 2 minutes or until rice is heated through.
2. Stir in soup mix blended with water and soy sauce and cook 1 minute. Stir in peas and carrots and cook 2 minutes or until heated through.
3. Make a well in center of rice and quickly stir in eggs until set. Stir eggs into rice and cook until done.

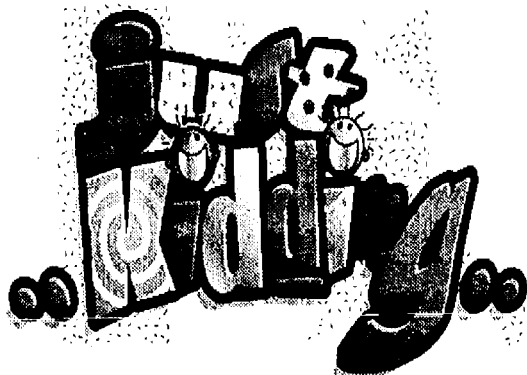
SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

BLUEBIRD FINCH PARAKEET
BUZZARD MACAW PARROT
CARDINAL MALLARD PELICAN
EMU OWL PIGEON

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

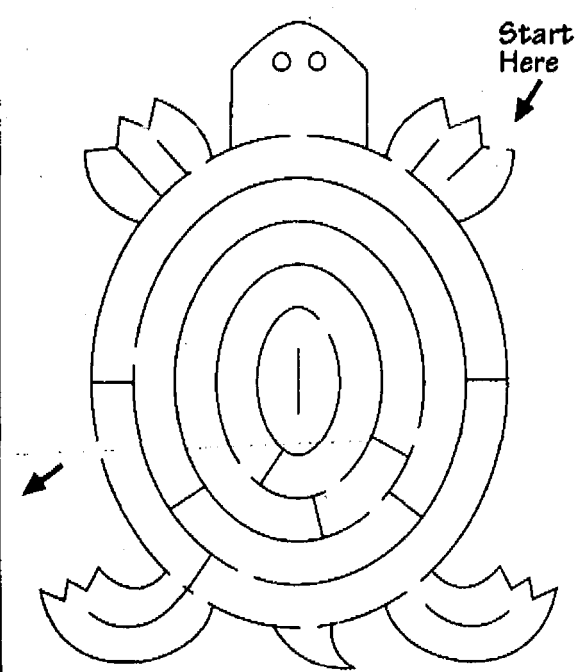
POUYIREMUE
AWCBUZZARD
STALDFNLGH
LORUKJALOF
MRDEMACAWI
NRIBBVIRLN
EANIQLDCC
WPARAKEETH
RTL DYUPIOL
ABNMPIGEON



DID YOU KNOW

According to the Irish tradition, a cricket heard chirping on Christmas Eve is called the king of all luck.

MAZE



Adopt a Pet



Slick is a Shar-Pei mix male. He is about 1 1/2 years old. Friendly with people, but will fight with other male dogs. Please call 348-4117 for more information on opening your home to a homeless animal. Or, e-mail: animal_director@yahoo.com.

The response to our latest fund-raisers has been wonderful: Dog-Opoly, Cat-Opoly, Wild Animal-Opoly and Ocean-Opoly are big hits! We have only one of the Ocean-Opoly game, but a few of the others are still available. These games are fun while being educational and make great gifts, or to just chase away cabin fever. Cost is \$25 each and all proceeds go to help the animals in our care. Games are available for purchase at J.Dap Co. and at the Avalanche office. "Creature Comforts Cookbook" is still available for a donation of \$15. Stop by the Shelter, the Grayling Hospital for Animals, the Avalanche, Riverland Gear, The Medicine Shoppe, or Stevens Family Circle and get your copy. The support of this community has allowed for many upgrades at the shelter in 2002. Stay tuned for details!

The Animal Shelter of Crawford County is located at:

508 1/2 Huron Street (M-72 East) in Grayling

Between the Road Commission and the Eagles Hall

Hours: Mon. - Sat. 9 am - 1 pm; Sun. and Holidays 8 am - 11 am

After hour appointments available. Call (989) 348-4117

HOROSCOPES

For the Week of January 30, 2003



January 19

Your circle of friends is expanding, and you have received several invitations. Choose which ones to attend carefully and above all, have fun.



March 21-April 19

A coworker says to you. Don't take them to heart. They have had a bad week and are just taking it out on you.



June 22-July 22

Romance is in the air. Splurge in a little and take your loved one out to dinner. Someone new is coming into your life.



September 23-October 22

You have been feeling sluggish. It could just be a sign that you are overworked, or it could be a sign of something more serious. Make an appointment with your physician to have it checked out.



January 20-February 18

An issue is weighing heavily on your mind. Turn to a family member for advice and resolve the matter quickly. An animal befriends you.



April 20-May 20

You receive uplifting news. Friends you haven't seen in awhile are coming for a visit. Plan something special for them.



July 23-August 22

A young friend is in trouble. Do what you can to help. Your financial records require a second look. Something is awry.



October 23-November 21

You can't put off that repair job any longer. Do it yourself or hire a professional to take care of it. Don't put off diet and exercise plans.



January 19-February 20

A film stirs up some good memories. Get out the scrapbooks, call up some friends you haven't seen in awhile and relive the good times.



May 21-June 21

Your reputation at work takes a beating...but you're not at fault! Don't worry. In time everything will be sorted out and your reputation will recover.



August 23-September 22

You are feeling energetic...use it to catch up on some chores around the house. Don't forget a special date.



November 22-December 21

A friend suffers a setback. Cheer them up with a get-together at your house. Invite several of their closest friends over and serve some of their favorite foods.

WEATHER

Courtesy of the City of Grayling

Last Week

Date	H	L	Snow
1/22	10	-7	2
1/23	7	-13	trace
1/24	15	5	25
1/25	18	12	1
1/26	19	5	4.5
1/27	8	-23	2
1/28	12	-7	1

Extended Forecast

(Courtesy of the Weather.com)

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
High 23 Low 3	High 26 Low 11	High 30 Low 14	High 28 Low 15	High 31 Low 18	High 30 Low 7
Snow Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Light Snow	Mostly Cloudy	Light Snow

ADVERTISING CLASSIFIED

Classifieds must be paid for in advance

Display Advertising Rate - \$6.30 per column inch

Deadline for Display Classifieds - 12 noon, Monday

Classifieds by the word rate - \$4.40 for 15 words or less, 10¢ per each additional word; includes Internet listing:

www.townnews.com/avalanche/

Classified by the word deadline - 12 noon, Tuesday

Crawford County Avalanche

1. Real Estate

SALE BY OWNER COMMERCIAL BUILDING
on I-75 Bus. Loop, 1750 sq. ft., HVAC, 220 3 phase, 2 restrooms. Presently a restaurant.
Call 517-422-4681



2002 New, Quality, Log sided home on beautiful 3.73 acre wooded parcel. Home offers privacy and outstanding views. Three bedrooms, three baths, magnificent stone fireplace, and attached garage. 2,079 square feet not including full walk-out basement. \$230,000 #4952 Ask for Connie!



River Country Real Estate • 2375 S. I-75 Bus. Loop (989) 348-5474

1. Real Estate

STOP RENTING for as low as \$500 - \$1,000 down and a small monthly payment. You can own your own home and have it paid for in two years. Timberly Village Mobile Home Park. (1/23/03tf/1)

1. Real Estate

NEWLY BUILT 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath. Two car attached garage. Five miles east of Grayling. \$92,000 (989) 348-4840 (-9-16-23-30/1)

MANY NORTHERN MICHIGAN PROPERTIES www.century21grayling.com (1/7/99tf/1)

1. Real Estate

1993 MOBILE HOME 16'x80' Must see, many extras. Three acres wooded. New well, septic, barn. State land 525' away. 3357 N. Down River. \$61,900 cash. (248) 627-7622 (-23-30-6-13/1)

1. Real Estate

LOW LOW MORTGAGE RATES Loan Closing three weeks or less. Northland Area Credit Union. 1-800-336-2328 (8/8/02tf/1)

1. Real Estate

LOOKING FOR ACREAGE Family interested in purchasing acreage with or without cabin/trailer. Close to snowmobile/ORV trails and state land for hunting. (248) 673-5788 (-23-30/1)

MOBILE HOME PARK & Camp Ground Land Contract terms. (989) 348-8959 (7/11/02tf/1)

NINE APARTMENTS and Living Quarters and four nice motel units with Jacuzzi's. \$40,000 down. Land Contract terms. (989) 348-8959 (7/11/02tf/1)

2. For Rent

OFFICE/RETAIL SPACE for rental, 1,200 sq. ft., immediate opening in neon plaza, Kalkaska. Call Sandy (231) 258-8377 between 9:00 to 3:00. (10/24/02tf/2)

MOBILE HOME FOR RENT No pets. Old 27 north, Timberly Village Mobile Home Park. (8/22/02tf/2)

TWO BEDROOM MOBILE HOME Inquire at Timberly Village Mobile Home Park. (10/10/02tf/2)



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NEW 3 BEDROOM, 2 bath home only minutes from town in a quiet neighborhood. Energy efficient home with natural gas heat and central air. Attached garage with electric opener. Beautifully landscaped yard with perennial garden. FF-1688 \$93,500



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Listing
ATTENTION HORSE LOVERS!!!
Square 10 acres. Private setting with 5 stall horse shelter. 80% open pasture land with Birch trees and rolling terrain. Electricity approx. 800' away. Seller is a licensed real estate broker in the State of Michigan. CH-1680 \$41,900



GREAT STARTER OR RETIREMENT HOME. Conveniently located only 1 mile from I-75 and 2 1/2 miles from Grayling. Priced below State Equalized Value. Updated roof, windows, furnace, central A/C, and carpet. All appliances included. 980 s.f., 2 B/R with walk-in closets, 10x10 storage shed. Neat and clean with immediate occupancy. Land Contract Terms. CH-1597 \$32,500



150' FRONTAGE ON THE AUSABLE RIVER! 10.08 acres. Prime building site 12 x 56 concrete slab, well, septic, and electricity. Great for hunting, fishing, and snowmobiling. CH-1661 \$68,900



LAKE MARGRETHE ACCESS cedar sided 1,400 s.f. Home. 3 B/R, 2 baths, master B/R suite w/built in wardrobe and entertainment center. Vaulted knotty pine beamed ceiling in great room. Kitchen has custom hickory cabinets and ceramic tile flooring and counter tops. Two doorways onto brick patio, split rail fence w/brick pillars, landscaped yard w/sprinkling system. Brick sidewalks, and planters. To include dishwasher, garbage disposal, micro, stove, and refrigerator. CH-1375 \$139,900



THIS 2 BEDROOM, one bath home offers 1,178 sq. ft. Large kitchen and dining room combination. Kitchen offers lots of cabinets. Large utility room with storage. 2 car detached garage with cement patio & apron. 15.5 x 8 enclosed porch and 10 x 30 covered porch. Convenient to shopping, schools, churches, etc. Bank selling as is condition with \$3,000 floor allowance! CS-1629 \$54,900



930 FEET ON THE FAMOUS AUSABLE MAIN-STREAM WITH 5.3 ACRES! For those who dream of enchanting delights... This home is a dream come true. Custom built cedar sided home offers 4BR, 2 1/2 baths. Open floor plan with vaulted ceilings. Large cedar deck with built in 6 person jacuzzi hot tub. Kitchen has beautiful oak cabinets with oak leaf panels, kitchen island and large pantry. Tiled bathrooms. Parge floors in kitchen and dining area. Picturesque setting with a nice landscaped yard. Attached garage and detached garage with upstairs bonus room. Adjoins state land. CS-1692 \$330,000



471 FEET AUSABLE RIVER WITH 2.75 ACRES. Tranquil setting with lots of wildlife. Custom built home offers 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths with 1600 sq. ft. Open floor plan with living room, family room, kitchen and dining area. Master bedroom offers walk in closet. Computer room or den off upstairs bedroom. Full finished basement with laundry facility. Hot tub off back deck. Hot water heat (wood or propane). Manicured lawn with 55 sprinkler heads and 4 zones. 2 garages (attached & detached). CS-1674 \$204,000



CLOSE TO AUSABLE RIVER, STATE LAND AND TRAILS. Recently renovated. Half log siding and steel roof. 1,624 s.f., 4 bedroom home located on blacktop county maintained road. New well, kitchen, appliances, windows, interior, and furnace. Spotless condition offering immediate possession. Priced Below Appraised Value. CH-1653 \$85,000



SEARCHING HIGH AND LOW FOR AN AFFORDABLE HOME? Home offers 948 s.f. with 3 bedroom, 1 bath, full basement with laundry. Large updated kitchen has pantry and floating snack bar. Home is ready to move into. Enclosed porch on front. Double lot with all the city services and convenient to stores, churches, schools etc. CS-1611 \$86,900

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Fred Shippy Associate Realtor
Rick Anderson Associate Realtor
Larry Moore Associate Realtor
Laurie Jamison Broker/Owner
Bonnie S. Odell ABR Office Manager Associate Broker



The Perfect Starter or Retirement Home! Located close to town, this 3BR, 1 bath home is the perfect location for a first-time home owner or retiree. Includes family room with wood stove and doorwall leading out to a cement patio, above ground pool, and never drywall in garage. Also features Michigan basement. \$63,000 #225023



Perfect Getaway Cabin! Great little 1 room, 1 bath studio cabin located within walking distance of Wakeley Lake. 20' x 24' garage, great weekend getaway. \$32,900 #225029



Charm-Comfort-Location! Bright and open with new kitchen. 4 BR, 2 bath home offers newer roof, furnace and drain field are 5 years old. Beautiful yard with fence in back and large deck. The large 2-car garage is wired with 220 for all your needs. \$103,000 #225059



Convenient & Economical! This 2 BR, 1 bath would make a good starter or rental home. Conveniently located close to schools and the hospital. A 24' x 32' garage with 8' x 10' doors new in 2000. Newer water filtering softener system. Back porch is 4' x 8' and enclosed. \$53,000 #225075

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Charming Half Log! Beautiful 1/2 log home. 3 BR, with possible 4th, 2 baths, full basement with easy access to set up game room. 24' x 28' garage with 6' x 28' shed and wood storage. Fireplace with insert, knotty pine interior, all on 2.8 acres. \$84,900 #223592



3 Family Apartment! Large home converted to 3 apartments for reasonable income and/or investment opportunity. Each unit includes a refrigerator and gas stove, and is leased by the month. No units are furnished. \$48,900 #224515



Priced to Sell! Great 1 bedroom, 1 bath weekend getaway just minutes from Lake Margrethe. Snowmobile trail and ORV trail nearby. Includes shed. \$17,900 #223957



Home on 11.5 Acres with Flowing Well! 3 bedroom, 1 bath 1 1/2 story on paved road 4 miles from West Branch. On 11.5 acres with nice garden spot and flowing well on property. Great starter home or hunting camp! Land contract possible. \$68,000 #223843



3 Family Apartment! Large home converted to 3 apartments for reasonable income and/or investment opportunity. Each unit includes a refrigerator and gas stove, and is leased by the month. No units are furnished. \$48,900 #224515



Priced to Sell! Great 1 bedroom, 1 bath weekend getaway just minutes from Lake Margrethe. Snowmobile trail and ORV trail nearby. Includes shed. \$17,900 #223957



Home on 11.5 Acres with Flowing Well! 3 bedroom, 1 bath 1 1/2 story on paved road 4 miles from West Branch. On 11.5 acres with nice garden spot and flowing well on property. Great starter home or hunting camp! Land contract possible. \$68,000 #223843



Rustic Log Home! Cozy "rustic feeling" log home on 5 acres. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath with a 24' x 14' barn. \$85,000 #223823



10+ Acres Near Manistee River! Great hunting, fishing and snowmobile area. State land to the West and 1/4 mile to the South. Manistee River is 1/2 mile away to the North. \$28,900 #13308



2.99 Acres w/Building Site! Beautiful 3+/- acre building site. Possible walkout on rolling terrain with land contract terms. Adjoining parcel available and state land across the road. Seller is licensed real estate broker. \$13,000 #13906



Wooded Acreage! Acreage in a nice mix of hardwoods, pines, rolling hills and meadows. Lots are in 10, 20 and 40 acre parcels. Prices from \$35,000 to \$120,000 #14849-14888



Beautiful Wooded 10 Acres with Creek! A very nice 10 acres with trees and some wetlands. Small creek on property from Lingel Pond to the East. Don't miss this chance at a great hunting site or possible home site on a paved road. \$30,000 #223680



6.72 Acres on Beaver Lake! This acreage is seceded on a private road with a building site already cleared and overlooking Beaver Lake. A great fishing lake with plenty of privacy. Electric is near by. \$64,900 #223648



5 Acres with Electric and Travel Trailer! Great location with a 30 foot Alfa Gold travel trailer included. Offers 5 acres and electric on site. A must see. \$21,900 #222851

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2. For Rent

BUSINESS OR OFFICE SPACE for rent. 640 square foot. Excellent traffic location on Federal Highway. One and 1/4 mile west of I-75 Exit 244. (989) 821-5995. (LR2/28/03/2)

Commercial Building For Rent

Suitable for Offices, & Medical Examining Rooms. 775 sq. ft. \$550/month 6251 M-72 West, 1 Mile W. of Grayling. 348-4716

2. For Rent

TWO BEDROOM MOBILE HOME on Arrowhead Rd. New bath, large kitchen and front room in quiet setting. \$1,250 moves you in. \$450 month plus \$450 security plus \$350 for new fill in fuel on tank. Call (989) 348-6334. (LR2/6/03/2)

1,000 Sq Feet OFFICE/RETAIL SUITE

On Business Loop \$500.00 per Month 348-5571

2. For Rent

NICE, CLEAN TWO BEDROOM mobile with garage, washer/dryer and appliances. \$425 plus deposit. No pets. (989) 348-2418. (-30/2)

TWO BEDROOM HOME near North Higgins Lake, new stove and refrigerator available immediately. \$500 per month plus utilities. Call (989) 821-6081. (-30-6/2)

ONE OR TWO BEDROOM upstairs apartment. Conveniently located downtown Grayling. \$375 per month, plus deposit, no pets. Call (989) 348-2833. (-2-9-16-23-30/2)

HOUSE \$580 plus utilities and security deposit. Three bedroom, three month lease then month by month. Nine miles from town. (989) 348-7758 (-30/2)

BEDROOM FOR RENT Only one mile from uptown Grayling and surrounded by woods and wildlife, enjoy a peaceful setting in this spacious home. \$275 per month. All utilities are free, including cable TV, phone, kitchen, laundry and more. (989) 348-2083. (-23-30/2)

TWO BEDROOM, ONE BATH, recently remodeled in town, attached garage. \$395 per month and utilities, references and security deposit required. Call (231) 922-7170 (-30-6/2)

FOR RENT

Grayling Housing Commission
Base Rent is based on 30% of Adjusted Income

Maximum Ceiling Rents

One Bedroom \$400.00
Two Bedroom \$350.00
Three Bedroom . . . \$375.00
Four Bedroom \$400.00
Rent Includes Utilities

These flat rents are the maximum rents to be paid for the units listed above. The Grayling Housing Commission basic rent is calculated on 30% of income.

308 Lawndale Drive
Telephone: 989-348-9314

2. For Rent

VIKING VILLAGE APARTMENTS is now accepting applications for immediate occupancy, as well as waiting list positions. Very nice, two bedroom, two bath apartments with an attached garage and central air conditioning in a private secluded setting. Lease includes appliances, weekly garbage pickup, snow removal, and lawn care. Paved street, natural gas. Credit application required. No pets. Inquire at Farm Bureau Insurance-Herb Olson (989) 348-9456. (-23-30-6-13/2)

TWO BEDROOM MOBILE HOME for rent, no pets. Timberly Village Mobile Home Park, I-75 Business Loop North. (11/21/02tf/2)

2. For Rent

THREE BEDROOM, TWO BATH New home 2.5 acres, two car garage. \$600 plus deposit. (989) 348-1915 (-23-30/2)

NEW MOBILE HOME Three bedroom, two bath. Two car garage near Lake Margrethe. \$575 month plus deposit. (989) 348-1915 (-23-30/2)

OLDER TWO BEDROOM HOUSE in Beaver Creek township. \$450 per month plus utilities, references plus one month security deposit. (989) 275-4126 and leave a message. (-30-6-13/2)

TWO BEDROOM Remodeled, no smoking, no pets. Six miles east of Grayling. \$450 month. (989) 348-4840 (-23-30-6-13/2)

2. For Rent

RECENTLY REMODELED 700 sq. ft two bedroom apartment at 201 Fulton in Grayling. Intercom from apartment to locked security door. Hookup for washer and dryer in apartment and in locked storage space in basement. Air conditioned. Non-smoking. Must see to appreciate. Ideal for single or couple. \$485 per month \$450 security deposit plus utilities. References required. Call (989) 348-7143. (12/5/02tf/2)

SPACIOUS ONE BEDROOM upper in Grayling. Includes all utilities plus trash pick-up, snow plowing. Stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer, digital cable furnished. Lots of storage and closet space. Carpeted throughout. Only quiet, responsible persons need apply. No smoking, no pets. \$565 per month plus deposit. Must have references. Phone (989) 348-8993 (-23-30/2)

RIVER FOREST FAMILY APARTMENTS at the corner of Hannah and Ballenger in Roscommon has One and Two bedroom units for immediate occupancy by qualified persons. Rent based on income, no minimum. Applications at office on site or call (989) 275-4061 or 1-800-225-7982. Managed by Stratford Group, Ltd., 442 W. Baldwin St., Alpena, MI 49707. Equal Housing Opportunity. Hearing TDD # 1-800-855-1155. (-23-30-6-13/2)

RIVERVIEW SENIOR APARTMENTS 306 Knight Street in Grayling has a one bedroom unit available for immediate occupancy. Rent based on income, no minimum. Applications at office on site or call. (989) 348-5837 or 1-800-225-7982. Managed by Stratford Group Ltd., 442 W. Baldwin Street, Alpena, MI 49707. Equal Housing Opportunity. Hearing TDD # 1-800-855-1155. (-23-30-6-13/2)

DUPLEX FOR RENT Three miles from Grayling, Eagle Point area. 1,400 sq. ft. Two bedroom, two bath, large master bedroom suite, newer construction. \$725 includes utilities, security deposit. No pets, no smoking. Call (231) 263-0231 (-2-9-16-23-30/2)

3. Employment

2003 PRODUCTION SEASON Assembly starting wage \$7.50. Carlisle Paddles, a Johnson Outdoors company applications thru January 31, 2003 for the summer production season (now thru approx. July 2003). We seek dependable, team-oriented individuals for seasonal assembly positions (40 hours/week). Positions require attention to detail, eye-hand coordination and the ability to maintain a fast work pace and learn quickly. Qualified applicants should apply in person at 4562 N. Down River Rd., in Grayling, Michigan EOE (-23-30/3)

GAS/CONVENIENCE STORE POSITION Clark Retail has an immediate opening for a Store Manager. Competitive pay, benefit, sales bonus. Mail resume to Clark Retail, PO Box 84, Houghton Lake, MI 48629 or fax (989) 366-9057. (-9-16-23-30-6/3)

ATTENTION - WORK FROM HOME \$500 - \$1,500 P/T, \$2,000 - \$4,500 F/T 1-800-304-2936 www.AGreatIncome.com (LR1/30/03/3)

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1. Real Estate

Hey Mortgage Lady!

Spring is coming and I would like to put up some new vinyl siding and do some landscaping to my home when the weather breaks. I have some money coming back from my income taxes but I think I will need more money than that. Should I re-finance, take out a home equity loan or put it on my credit cards?

Sincerely, Green Thumb

Dear Green Thumb,

By using the equity in your home or re-financing you can most likely get a great rate and possibly a tax break on your next year's income taxes. Stop by or call me. Together we can figure out how much you can take out of your home. There might even be enough to pay off those high interest rate credit cards!



"Mortgage Lady" Liz Noffsinger

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REAL ESTATE FORECLOSURE SALE

County Building Courthouse
Feb. 12, 2003 at 10:00 a.m.

Property Address: 3009 Rasmus Drive, Grayling, MI
Minimum Bid: \$42,200 + \$1.00

3 bedrooms, 1 bath

Property Size: 21,600 SF

Redemption Period: six (6) months

Offer must be in form of certified check or money order the day of the sale.

For information contact:
USDA Rural Development
240 W. Wright St.
West Branch, MI 48661
(989) 345-5470



1. Real Estate

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Connie Winans
Associate Broker



Scott Hansen
Sales Agent



Bob Pollack
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Bill Borcher
Sales Agent



Randall Hartley
Sales Agent



Jerry Gosnell
Associate Broker

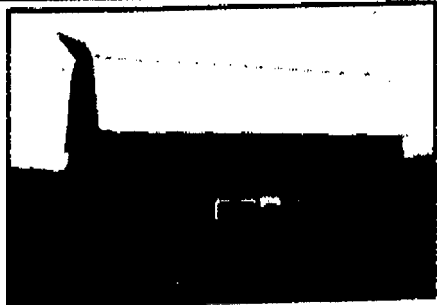


Ron Baker
Associate Broker



Allen Secord
Sales Associate

Special Feature!



120 acres, home, garage, and large barn with hay loft. This home is older but spotless and in good condition with a full basement and 5 bedrooms. Beautiful mature trees, maple, and other hardwood species cover about 45% of the property. Owner says the tillable land is in excellent condition and has been used wisely in the past. \$320,000 #5047



PROUD TO BE AMERICAN!



Like new ranch style home on 3 1/5 acres only 6.5 miles from Grayling. This home has two bedrooms and is 744 sq. ft. Features include new interior, hardwood flooring in the kitchen, dining room and living room areas. Home also includes a 22 x 22 attached garage. \$59,900 #4975



A cozy, clean, very energy efficient home in the city of Grayling. Home features updates such as custom oak cabinets in the kitchen and living room and Anderson windows. Other features are a full basement, gas log brick fireplace, large rear deck, and a very spacious yard. \$67,500 #5059



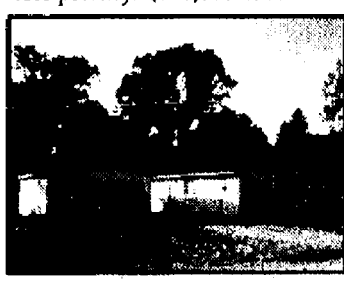
Very spacious home on two acres. The rear of the property adjoins state land. This home is very comfortable with a fireplace to warm up to in the winter and central air conditioning to cool off in the summer. The property is located on a private dead end street and property size guarantees privacy. \$125,000 #5066



Charming remodeled home featuring new roof, vinyl siding, kitchen, majority of the windows, 2.5 ton central air conditioning, a green house off the living room and gazebo in the back! Garage is insulated, drywalled and heated! A must see! \$83,000 #5065



Three bedroom cottage on secluded lake between Grayling and Gaylord. Ride your snowmobile out your front drive or go fishing from your rear deck. Year round recreation. Nice sandy beach frontage, great swimming and fishing area. Also includes 14' boat. \$129,900 #5068



Nicely maintained three bedroom home has a large 20 x 21 living room, and has had many new updates to the home within the past few years, to include new floor covering and new drywall. Located in Beaver Creek Township, Crawford County. \$73,500 #5045



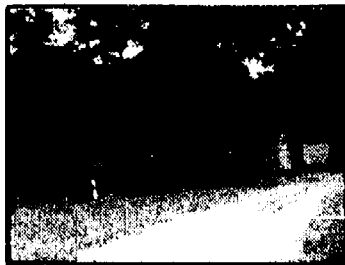
Nice secluded two bedroom home features knotty pine interior with 784 sq. ft. The property includes a 12 x 14 guest house, storage shed and a two car garage. Property features a garden area, and is very close to the AuSable River. \$86,500 #5024



MOTIVATED SELLER!! Well maintained, three bedroom, two bath home is situated on two lots, has a deeded easement to the AuSable River, and backs up to State Land. Featuring a large kitchen with island, paved driveway, shed and tons of beautiful landscaping. \$128,000 #5043



Newly remodeled four bedroom farm house on 20 acres. Working farm features a hay field, 32 x 48 pole barn, a round pen, wood paddock, and a loading shed. Home has many updates: drywall, oak cabinets, split stone gas fireplace, well, furnace, copper pipes and more. \$139,900 #5023



GREAT LOCATION! Only minutes from town. This three bedroom home has had many updates to include: house wrap and vinyl siding, vinyl windows, new roof and extra insulation to the ceiling (R-40). Garage is 16 x 30 with the back half being utilized as a work shop. \$78,000 #5011



This full log shell includes doors, windows and partitions for rooms. It is a one story construction with a loft and a 16 x 28 half log detached garage. Does not include well, septic, plumbing, heating, electrical, or appliances. \$87,000 #4973



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3. Employment

PART TIME RECEPTIONIST 25 to 30 hours per week, must be flexible on hours and days. Applicant must have great customer service skills. Be neat and hardworking. Computer experience required. Please send your resume to LN, P.O. Box 490, Grayling, MI 49738. (-16-23-30/3)

HILLMAN NURSING CENTER, Northeast Michigan's premier skilled and long-term care facility is seeking applications both for RN and LPN positions, all shifts. Hillman Nursing Center offers outstanding benefits and an absolutely wonderful work environment. Our dedicated staff of RN's start at \$19.50 an hour and our LPN's at \$15.50. If you enjoy working with and caring for the elderly and want to be part of a team that is enthusiastic and friendly, please call, stop in or send a resume to: ATTN: Debra Brown, RN DON (989) 742-4581, Hillman Nursing Center, 631 Caring St., Hillman, MI 49746 (-30-6-13/3)

3. Employment

HILLTOP MANOR HEALTH CARE CENTER has positions open for full time and/or part time RN's and LPN's. We offer competitive wages along with a benefit package. We also offer midnight shift differential. If you would like to be part of our team please inquire within at 1290 East Michigan Highway, Roscommon, Michigan. (-23-30/3)

SALES REP WARRANTY CO Salary plus commission, paid expenses, auto reimbursement, benefits negotiable. For Grayling and upper Michigan area. Must like to travel. fax resume to (517) 663-3625 or mail resume to: 11807 June Circle, Eaton Rapids, MI 48827. (-2-9-16-23-30/3)

A 30 SECOND COMMUTE, from bed to office. Serious \$\$\$ potential. Full training. FREE info. Home-based Business. Call or visit. 800-657-0112. www.LiveYourDreamsCentral.com (-23-30-6/3)

3. Employment

HOME BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY Excellent \$\$\$ Potential. Improve your family's financial future. P/T - F/T Free info. Full training. www.jmsuccessbuilders.com 800-845-0322 (-16-23-30/3)

HOME BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY Learn to earn income with your own home business. Free booklet. www.fix-doncash.com Call (888) 550-7859. (-16-23-30/3)

PARAPROFESSIONAL Kirtland Community College is accepting applications for a part-time (15 hours per week) paraprofessional for the FLEX lab. Qualified applicants will have the ability to assist faculty and students in the teaching and learning process utilizing established criteria. Beginning base wage \$11.25 per hour; actual compensation will be determined by the 2002-03 salary schedule; limited fringe benefit package. Send letter of application, resume, and three letters of reference to Human Resources Department, Kirtland Community College, 10775 N. St. Helen Rd., Roscommon, MI 48653. Applications will be accepted until February 14, 2003. Kirtland Community College is an equal employment opportunity/affirmative action employer. Visit our web site at <http://www.kirtland.cc.mi.us> or call (989) 275-5000, ext. 239 for a complete position description. (-30/3)

MERCY AMICARE HOME-CARE & HOSPICE is looking for an RN who is willing to work contingently for the Hospice service. This person will work in the office and/or some occasional field work. Computer or laptop experience a plus! This is a great opportunity for an RN who does not want a caseload, or specific schedule. One or more years of experience, med surg nursing, or hospice/homecare experience. Candidate must have excellent interpersonal skills and be organized. Interested candidates can call Gayle Willett for more information (800) 424-1457 or mail resume/application to: 201 Meadows Drive, Suite A, Grayling, MI 49738. Fax: (989) 348-0045 Attn: Gayle. Achieving Workforce Diversity Through Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. (12/19/02/f/3)

3. Employment

HOME AND GARDEN PARTY is expanding in your area. High commission, no inventory, no delivery. PT/FT wanted. Call toll free (866) 230-0443. (-23-30-6-13/3)

OFFICE CLERK/RECEPTIONIST Full time position with full benefits available. Must possess office/computer skills and have 1-2 years of previous experience. College degree preferred but not necessary. Accounting knowledge a plus. Send resume in confidence to: ATTN: Office Manager, P.O. Box 49, Prudenville, MI 48651 or fax to (989) 366-9458 (-16-23-30/3)

4. Services Offered

DOLL REPAIR Kiln firing, and doll supplies. Call (989) 348-8350 (12/12/02/f/4)

WE'RE BACK Patrick Ross Painting and Handyman Service. No job too small. Offering painting, paperhanging and removal, drywall, home repairs, remodeling and wiring solutions for cable, phone, computer and home theater. For your Free Estimate. Call (989) 344-ROSS or (989) 348-9776 (-30-6/4)

SNOWPLOWING Also roof, snow and ice removal will beat any price. Please call (989) 344-1071. (-16-23-30-6/4)

FOR NEW HOME CONSTRUCTION, add-on, garages, pole buildings, renovation, repairs, window and door replacement, roofing, siding. Metal roofs and ceramic tile, hardwood flooring. Call Cross Roads Construction, 6280 Atkinson Rd., Grayling, Michigan. Call (989) 344-0238 or (734) 644-6640 today for a complimentary consultation. (7/4/02/f/4)

Odd-Job Enterprises
Let us do your small home repairs
FREE ESTIMATES - CALL
LTC. Norm Schmooch (Ret.)
348-5132
No odd jobs too small for Odd Job

COMPLETE SEPTIC TANK INSTALLATION & CLEANING
Jack Millikin, Inc.
348-8411
www.jackmillikininc.com

CUSTOM UPHOLSTERY
Over 10 years experience
Choose fabric in your home
FREE estimates • Pick-up & delivery
Shirley Bolton (231) 258-2610

4. Services Offered

INCOME TAXES PREPARED Low cost, thirty years experience. (989) 348-4771 (-23-30/4)

PIANO TUNING AND REPAIRS Rogers Piano Service, Fairview, MI 48621. Over 20 years experience. (989) 848-2262. (-2-16-30/4)

ROOF SNOW REMOVAL 15 years experience. Call for a free estimate. (989) 348-5848 or (989) 942-7303 (cell). (-30/4)

DRIVER'S TRAINING & Road Testing is offered by the Grayling Drivers Training School. Register now for the April 8 class. Contact Howard Lehti (989) 348-8838. (LR4/3/03/4)

M AND L CLEANING SERVICE with references. For more information call (989) 348-1292 or (989) 348-5048. (-9-16-23-30/4)

TOM'S POLE BUILDINGS Free quotes on all size buildings. Featuring Ultra 2000 siding & roofing. 4050 Industrial Dr., Harrison, Michigan 1 (800) 541-3974 tomspolebuildings.com (2/7/02/f/4)

5. For Sale

THREE HORSES KING Nine-year-old Quarterhorse Gelding Sorrel good temperament. Spot in right eye. Needs good home. \$1,000. Jaylee-13-year-old Appaloosa Registered Mare Chestnut, beautiful horse handles very well good temperament \$1,900. Blizzard 12-year-old thoroughbred Gelding Grey Dapple handles well. \$1,400 (989) 348-5491 ask for Bart. (23-30-6-13/5)

DRY OAK FIREWOOD Split and delivered. \$45 a face cord, two cord minimum. (989) 348-1870 after 6:00. 619-0912 work. (LR5/1/03/5)

WOODSTOVE WITH BLOWER and some pipe. \$150 (989) 348-3937 (-30/5)

2002 SKI-DOO MXZ 500 Fan, Yellow, electric start, reverse, garage kept, showroom new, 1,250 miles. \$4,950. (989) 821-9367 (-30-6/5)

TWO ANTIQUE TYPE PIECES of furniture. One dresser, one bureau. Call (989) 821-8343 for more details. (-30/5)

AMISH LOG BED and queen pillowtop mattress set. New in plastic. Cost \$900, sacrifice for \$225. Call (989) 539-3910 or (989) 429-0062. (-30/5)

Grayling Re-Do-It Re-Sale Shop
We sell furniture, decor for every room & collectibles.
Open Tuesday - Friday 9-5 • Saturday 10-5
111 Vilas Street • Grayling
(One block North of Custer's)

5. For Sale

GOT THEFT? For sale: (2) 2002 Panasonic time lapse video recorders for security and surveillance. Record 24, 48, 72, 96 hrs. up to 7 days on one VHS Tape. If you have something you want to "Catch on Tape" call (989) 348-9776. \$1,100 new, asking \$350 ea. (-30/5)

SNOWMOBILE AUCTION Saturday, February 1 at 9 a.m. Hundreds of snowmobiles, plus 3 and 4 wheelers, trailers, related items. You can buy or sell! Our 28th year—America's largest. Info at www.snowmobileauction.com or call 517-369-1153. Lots of fun—bring a friend! White Star Snowmobile Auction, Inc. east of Bronson, Michigan on US 12. (-23-30/5)

6. Wanted

FOLKS INTERESTED in Model Railroad. First meeting, Monday, February 3 at 6 p.m. Location: Grayling Free Methodist Church, 6352 M-72 West. Any questions (989) 348-1185 (-23-30/6)

7. Miscellaneous

4 X 8 Lighted Signs and or tables and chairs for special occasions. Trash barrels for sale at Fick & Sons, Grayling. (989) 348-7647 or 1-800-292-9295. (7/25/02/f/7)

FREE TO GOOD HOME English Springer Spaniel about eight years old. Spayed and up-to-date on shots. Great with children but no other pets please. Loves water and is very energetic and likes lots of attention. Call (989) 348-6479. (-30/7)

8. Announcements

Animal Shelter of Crawford County Board of Directors will meet
Wed., February 12th
at 6 p.m. at the
Gray Rock Cafe.

PRESCRIPTION DISCOUNTS NOW!
Why wait for government programs to start? The MATURE RX Card gives you and your entire family discounts up to 65% at a cost of less than 4¢ per day! Now available at Look! Insurance across from Buccilli's Pizza. For more information call 344-1111.

North Central Community Mental Health

Is seeking individuals to provide care for adults with developmental disabilities in a group home in Grayling. Rewarding work environment with staffing ratio of 1:3 or less. "Previous experience with behavioral health care services is a plus." Starting wage is \$7.11/hr, increased to \$8.90/hr after paid training. Potential for promotion to full-time with excellent fringe benefit package. Applicants must have proof of high school diploma/equivalent, reliable transportation, and a working home telephone. Must have acceptable driving and criminal record checks. To apply, call Beth at (989) 348-2461 Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. EOE

SAVE-A-LOT

Great Food at Great Prices!
Fenneman Brothers LLC

Save-A-Lot Food Stores is searching for a qualified candidate for the position of Assistant Manager, in our Grayling Save-A-Lot Food Store at 2333 S. I-75 Business Loop.

Minimum Qualifications

- Willing to supervise and perform physical work, including stocking, maintenance, cleaning, cashiering in a busy grocery store environment.
- Excellent cash handling skills.
- Grocery or retail experience in a supervisory position is preferred but not required.
- High School Diploma/GED

We Offer You

- Complete Training
- Competitive wages
- Full benefits: including medical, dental, vision, life insurance, 401K, paid vacations, disability,
- Promotions from within
- A fun and exciting opportunity and challenge

Please see Chris in person with an updated resume at:
Save-A-Lot
2333 S. I-75 Business Loop, Grayling, MI 49738
EOE

Employment Opportunities at Otsego Memorial Hospital

Otsego Memorial Hospital, a growing provider of primary health care services in beautiful northern Michigan, is seeking individuals to fill the following positions:

- Coder.
- OR Tech.
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Registered Respiratory Therapist
- CENA Extended Care
- RN/LPN, Extended Care, (Part-time)
- RN, Certified Diabetes Educator, (Part-time)
- Clinical Medical Assistant (Contingent)
- Housekeeper (Part-Time)
- Director of Nursing, McReynolds Hall
- RN, Oncology/Surgery, Phys. Services

In Gaylord, our emphasis is on outdoor recreation and quality of life. We enjoy a healthful climate which is ideal for year-round sporting activities including golf, camping, boating, tennis, cross-country and downhill skiing, hunting, fishing, and more. Gaylord boasts a strong business community and award winning schools.

OMH offers an excellent full-time benefit package including health, dental, vision, life and disability insurance; discount prescription; continuing education/tuition assistance; pension and generous paid time off.

Applications are available online at www.gaylordhospital.org (click on Career link), or mail, fax or e-mail resume to:

Human Resources Department, Otsego Memorial Hospital
825 North Center, Gaylord, MI 49735

e-mail: hr@gaylordhospital.org
Phone: (989) 731-2252 • Fax: (989) 731-7792



OTSEGO MEMORIAL HOSPITAL



REWARD

Lost Dog

Lost Sunday Morning
January 19th in the
Beaver Road - Military Road Area



5 Month Old Brindle
(Light and Dark Stripes) Male Boxer
White on one side of lip and nose and dark
on the other side. Very Loved Family Friend
Please Call Sharon Priebe at 348-2346
Evenings & Weekends
or Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 348-5982
WE WILL PAY A REWARD FOR HIS RETURN

ARE YOU A PROUD PARENT?
THE AVALANCHE WILL BE PRINTING A SPECIAL COLOR SECTION CALLED -
CRAWFORD COUNTY'S SWEETHEARTS 2003
DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 14, 2003. THE COST IS
\$10.00 FOR EACH PHOTO SUBMITTED.

11. Automotive

OIL CHANGE IN 29 MINUTES OR LESS OR THE NEXT ONE IS FREE!

- Oil change (up to five quarts of oil)
- Oil filter
- Chassis lube
- Fluid level checks
- Brakes - differential transfer case - transmission windshield washer
- 25-point inspection
- No Appointment Necessary

- Competitive Up-Front Pricing
- Limited Lifetime Guarantee on Parts & Labor
- Courtesy Transportation



\$22.95 EVERY DAY!

Goodwrench Service Plus
See us for limited lifetime guarantee details.

SCHEER MOTORS
US-27 North, Grayling • 989-348-6451

We accept:
Visa • Mastercard • Discover
American Express
Hours: Mon - Fri 8:00 am - 5:30 pm
Sat 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Announcements

ANY NON-PROFIT or government agency wishing to bid on local FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) Emergency Food and Shelter Funds must submit a proposal and certification forms to the Crawford County Family Independence Agency by January 31, 2003. Crawford County has been awarded a grant of \$8,233. Funds will be divided based on proposals meeting criteria to assist local residents with emergency food and shelter, supplementing or extending existing programs. If interested, contact Cynthia Pushman at (989) 344-5121 for the appropriate forms. (-23-30/8)

GRAYLING HOLIDAY INN'S Speakeasy Saloon live entertainment. Wednesday thru Saturday bands playing. Jan. 22 & 23 D.J. Cal; Jan. 24 & 25 Back Talk; Jan. 29 - Feb. 1 Sweet Talk Happy Hour is back! 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. 25 oz. drafts. \$2; Bass Ale and Guinness Stout, 25 oz, \$5. (-23-30/8)

ARE YOU CRAZY ABOUT BEADS? J. Dap Co. Gift Store will be holding a Bead Night Monday, Feb. 3 from 6-8. This will give all you bead lovers a chance to share ideas. There will be no charge. Just bring your imagination!! J. Dap Co. located at 118 Michigan Ave. in Grayling. Call (989) 348-4011 for details. (-30/8)

KARAOKE FRIDAY AND SATURDAY night 9-? Plaza Bar. Come and join the fun. (1/24/02tf/8)

SKYLINE RESTAURANT SPECIALS Thursday night, 8 oz. Prime Rib dinner \$9.95. Friday night all you can eat Deep Fried Icelandic Cod Fillet dinner \$9.95. Pan Fried Lake Perch or Walleye dinner \$11.99. Deep Fried Breaded Cod Basket \$5.99. Saturday night BBQ rib. 1/2 slab \$9.95, full slab \$12.95. 12 oz. Ribeye steak \$12.95. All dinners are served with salad, bar soup and potato. Other specials served daily. (989) 275-5445 (10/24/02tf/8)

9. Personals

Michigan "Biker" Matchmaking
Why ride alone? Place your free personal ad today. You can search or have us search ads for you, and FREE too! Please visit www.michiganbikermatchmaking.com

REWARD

Lost Dog on Jan. 12th
Frederic Township Near High School
Black Male Cocker Mix
Call (989) 348-9620

See a photo you like in the Avalanche?
Purchase a copy for yourself.
4x6 ~ \$4
5x7 ~ \$6
8x10 ~ \$12
Crawford County Avalanche
348-6811

11. Automotive

1995 BUICK LESABRE Four door, custom, excellent condition, \$4,500 (989) 348-8963 (-30/11)

1988 GMC TRUCK 2 WD, 1 ton, high mileage, very dependable. \$3,495 (989) 344-7669 (1/16/03tf/11)

11. Automotive

2000 CHEVY VENTURE 36,000 miles. Asking \$12,500 O.B.O. (989) 348-4156 (LR 3/20/03/11)

1995 FORD ESCORT Five speed sedan, air, new parts and new tires, excellent condition. \$800 (989) 344-0601 (-30/11)

11. Automotive

1994 PONTIAC SUNBIRD Two door, four cylinder, 56k actual miles, clean, one owner. \$3,550 (989) 348-1499 (-23-30/11)

1993 CHEVY CAVALIER Two door, 84k miles, four cylinder, clean. \$2,550 (989) 348-1499 (-23-30/11)

11. Automotive












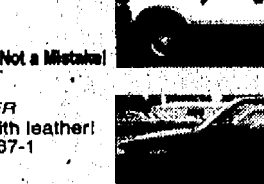



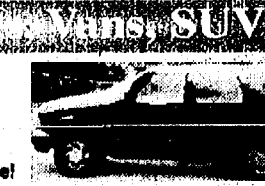
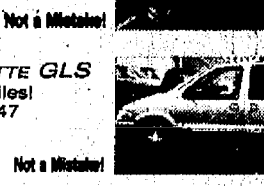




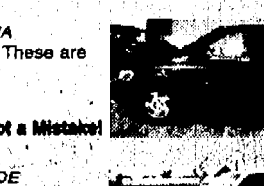




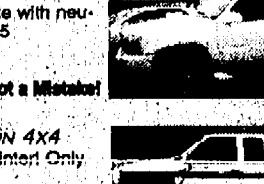

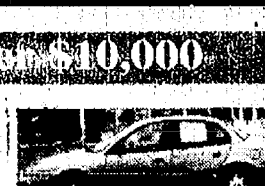

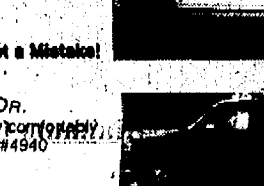

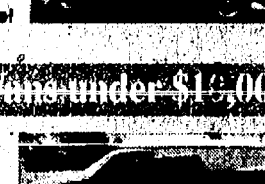


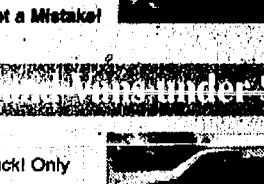
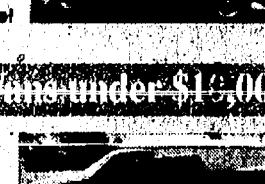

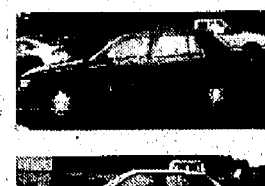
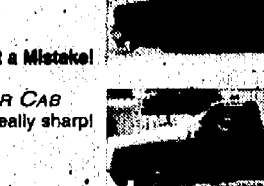






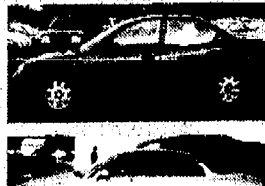






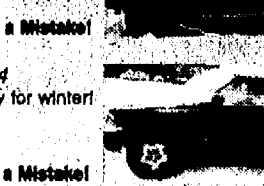

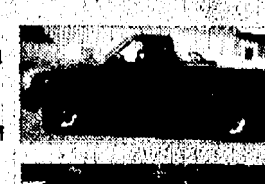


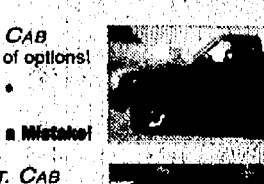
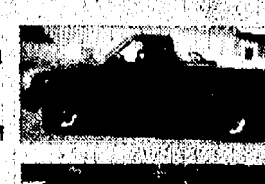















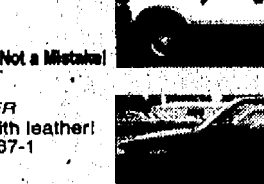



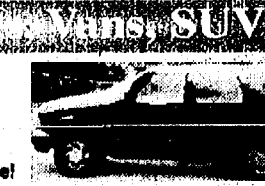
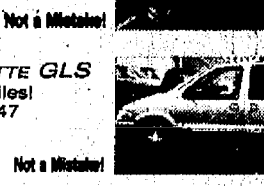




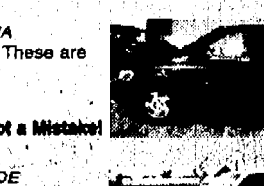




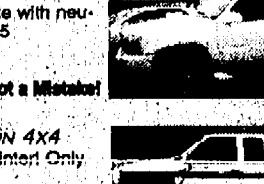

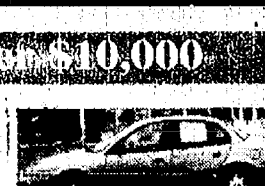

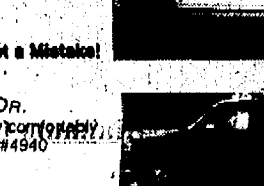

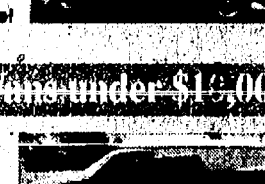


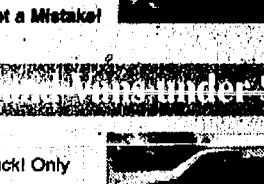
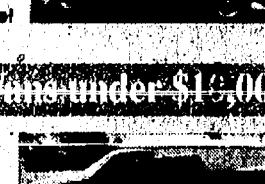

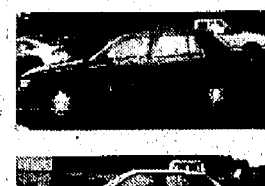
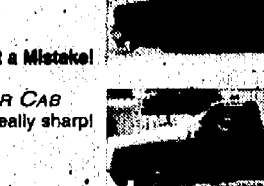






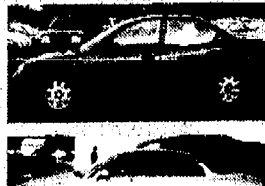






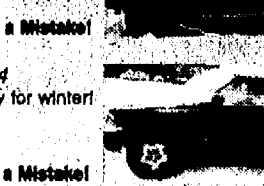

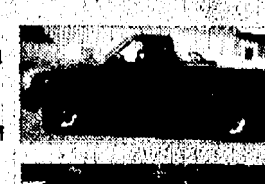


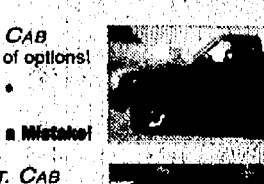
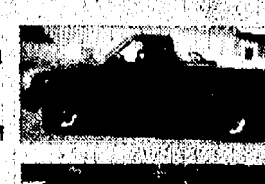










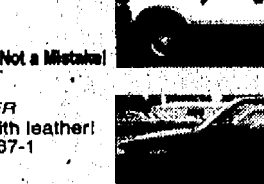



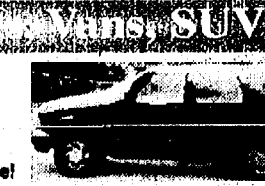
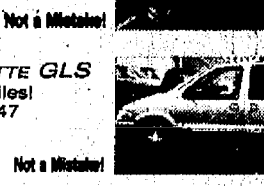




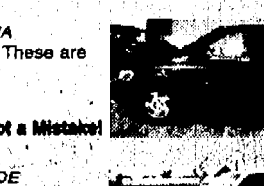




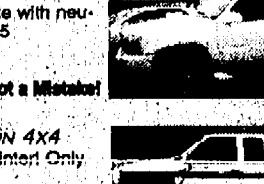

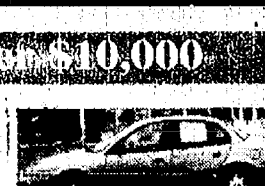

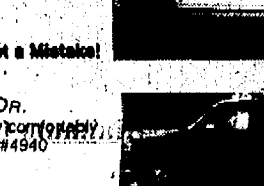

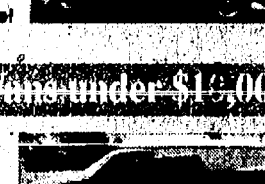


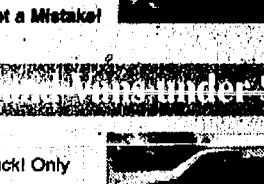
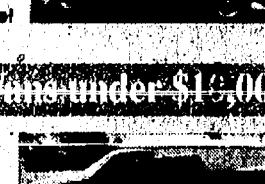

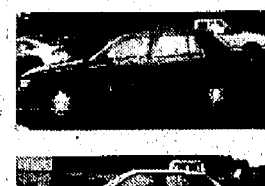
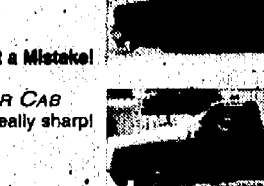






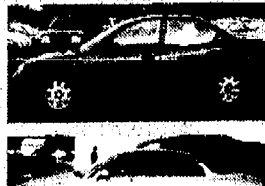






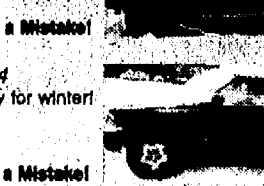

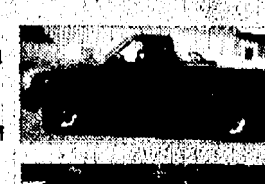


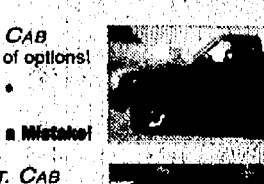
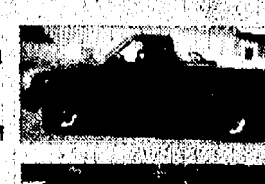









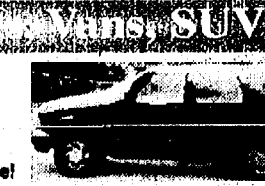
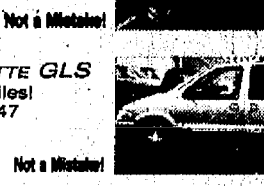




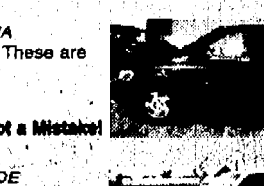




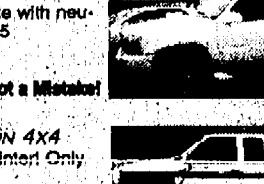

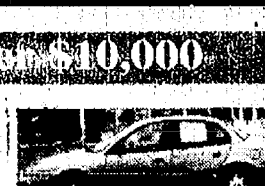

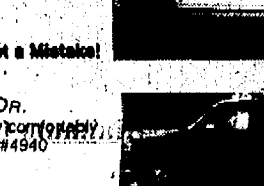

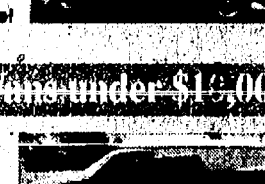


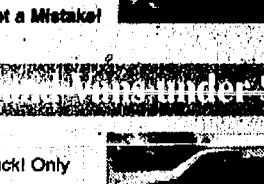
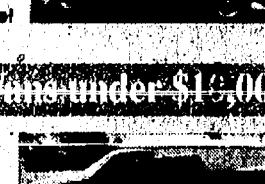

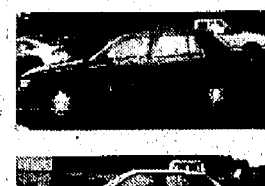
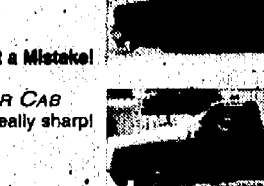






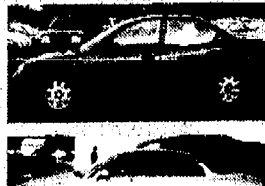






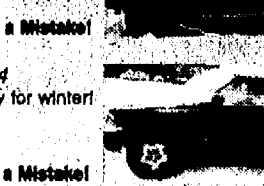

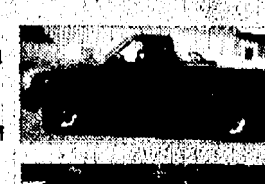


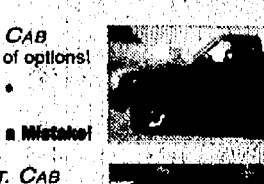
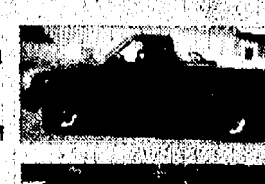










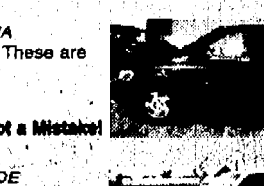




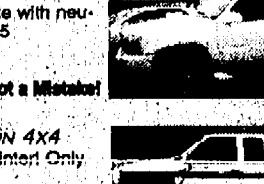

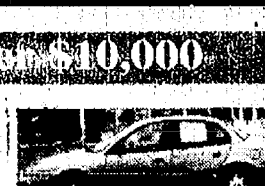

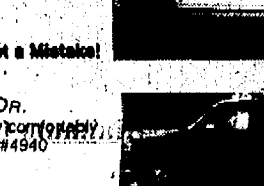

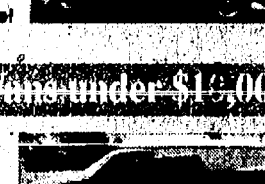


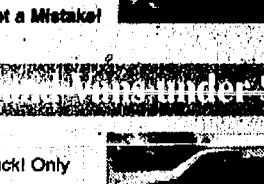
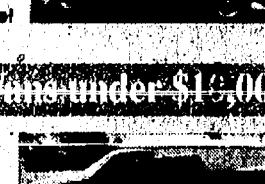

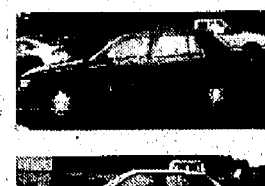
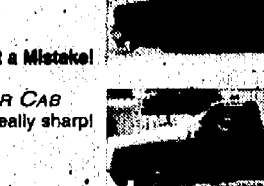






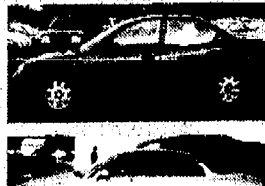






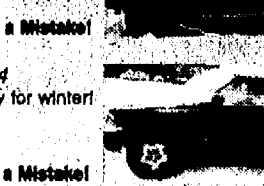

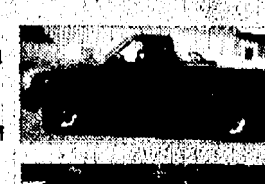


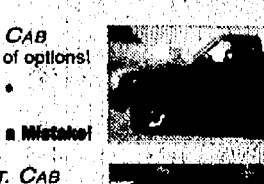
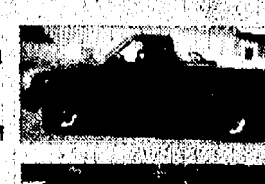










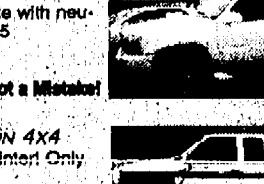

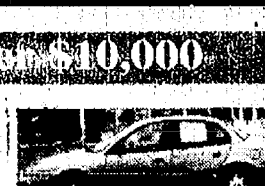

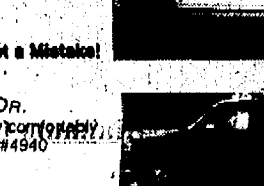

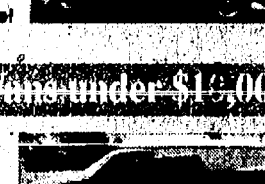


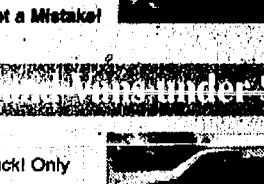
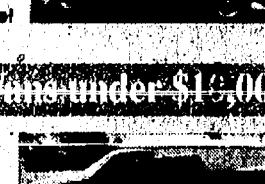

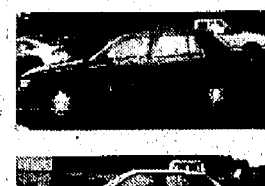
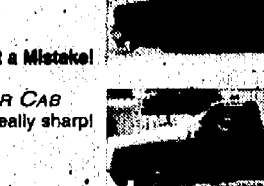






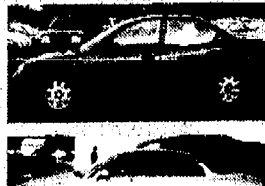






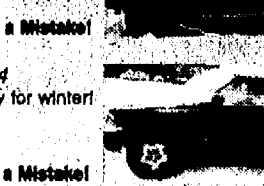

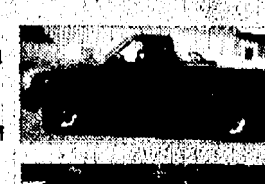


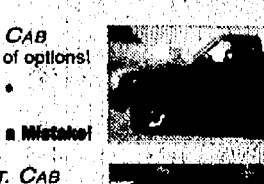
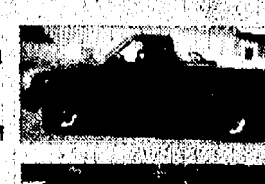








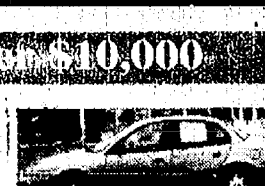

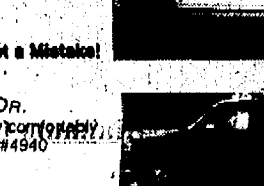

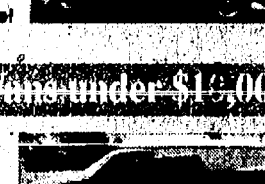


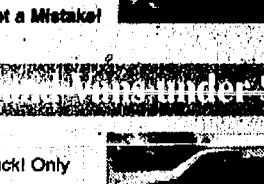
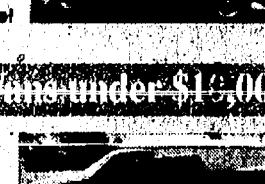

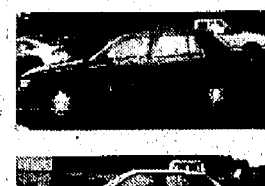
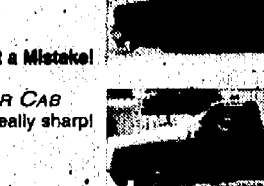






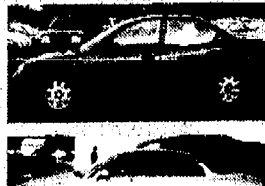






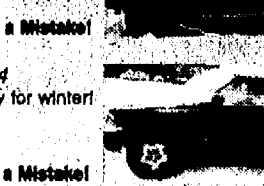

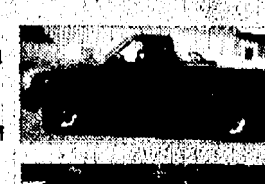


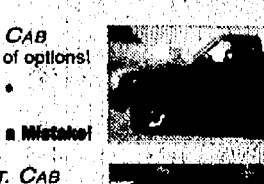
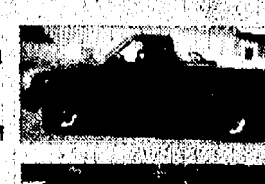










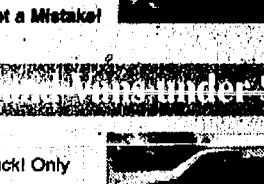
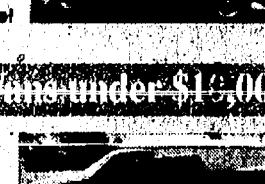

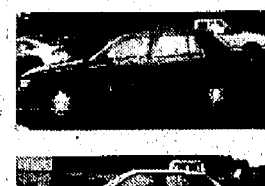
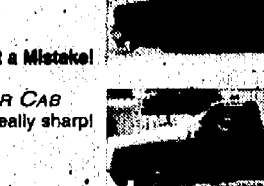






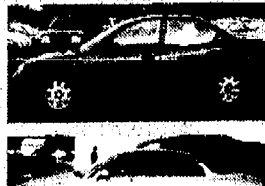






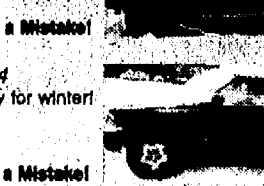

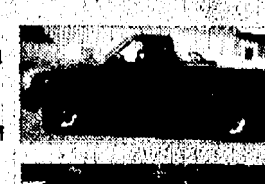


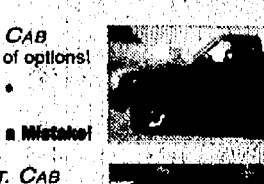
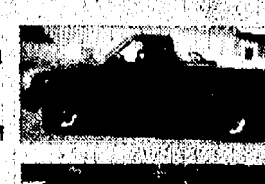








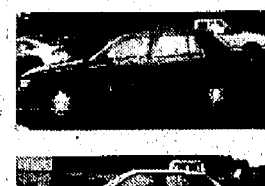
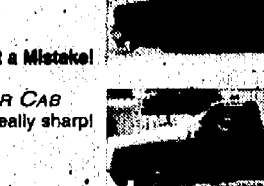






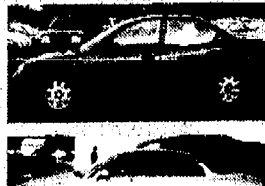






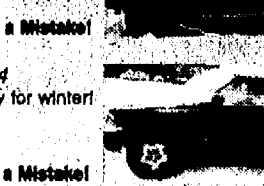

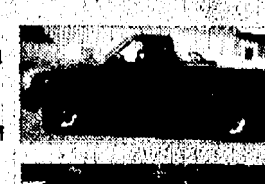


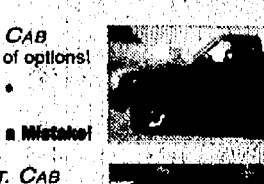
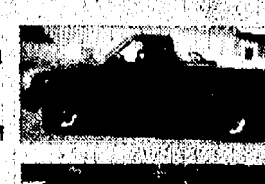













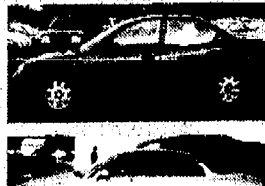






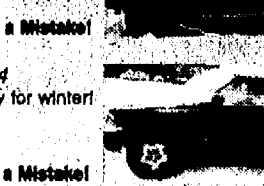

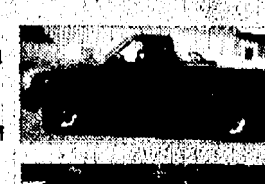


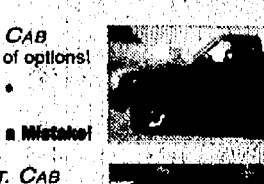
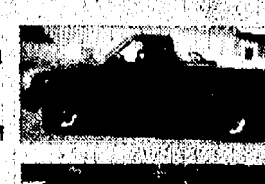









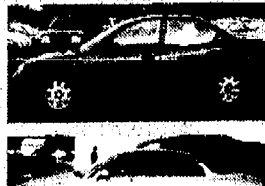






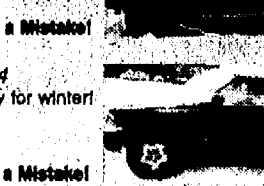

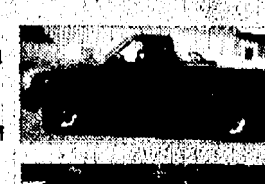


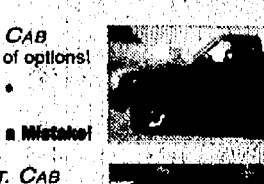
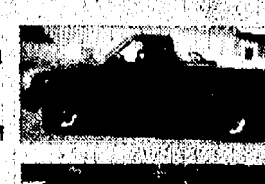








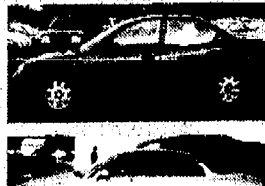






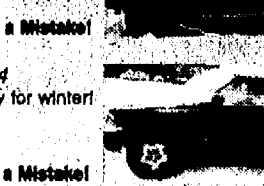

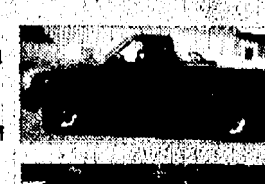


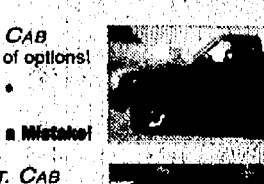
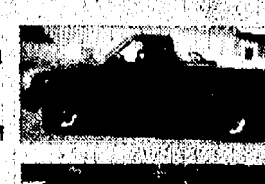










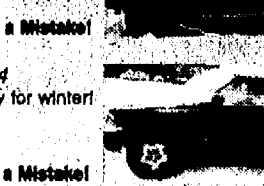

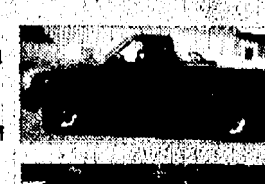


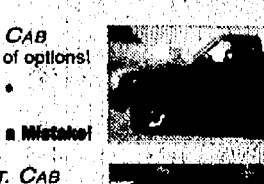
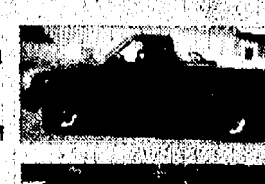










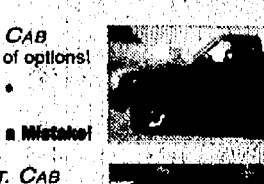
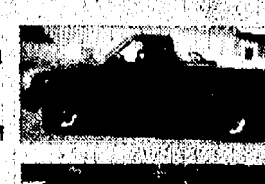

















1991 DODGE CONVERSION VAN 318 engine, very good condition. \$2,800 O.B.O. 1993 Dodge Shadow, very clean, good condition. \$1,500. (989) 348-7597 (-30-6-13/11)






AVALANCHE OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 102 Michigan Avenue, Grayling - (989) 348-6811

11. Automotive




GMC SIERRA EXTENDED 4WD, Z71 350 automatic, loaded. 1991 has engine warranty remaining, excellent condition, matching Fiberglass cap, never any rust. \$8,900 (989) 348-8659 message. (1/23/03tf/11)


WINTER USED CAR CLEARANCE


Next to Now	Clean Car	10,000 Cont.	Next to New	Van, SUV's Cont.																																																																											
2000 CHEVY MALIBU LS V6, power windows and doors, CD/Cassette, real nice! #19287-1 Was \$13,495 Blowout Price \$11,988 Not a Mistake! 	1999 SATURN WAGON SW1 Auto. with air! Very clean! Must See! Great Gas Mileage! #4882 Was \$12,988 Blowout Price \$9,988 Not a Mistake! 	1999 PONTIAC SUNFIRE 4 dr., only 40,000 miles! Clean and Sharp! Red! Worry Free 4 mo./4,000 warranty! #19263-1 Was \$12,988 Blowout Price \$9,988 Not a Mistake! 	1999 GMC SONOMA EXT. CAB 4x4 SLS, fully equipped, very clean and sharp! #4918 Was \$15,988 Blowout Price \$13,988 Not a Mistake! 	1999 S-10 EXT. CAB 2 Wheel drive, 3rd door, auto., air, LS, tilt, cruise! A great little truck for a little bit of money! #4825 Was \$13,988 Blowout Price \$11,988 Not a Mistake! 	2001 CHEVY MONTE CARLO SS Wow! Flame Red with power moon roof and lots of goodies! This one won't be here long! #19243-1 Was \$19,988 Blowout Price \$17,988 Not a Mistake! 	1998 BUICK LESABRE Custom, popular "Sandrift" color, very nice and sharp! #19138-2 Was \$10,988 Blowout Price \$9,488 Not a Mistake! 	1998 FORD TAURUS GL, loaded with options, clean and nice! Has some miles, but the price shows it! #19457-1 Was \$6,988 Blowout Price \$4,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 CHEVY BLAZER LT 4 Dr., 4x4, Leather, Sunroof, Two-Tone paint, Beautiful Unit! #19317-1 Was \$16,488 Blowout Price \$16,988 Not a Mistake! 	1998 FORD EXPLORER 2 dr., 4x4, Sport Model! Loaded with leather! Very nice, very clean! #19067-1 Was \$13,988 Blowout Price \$12,488 Not a Mistake! 	2001 PONTIAC SUNFIRE 2 Dr., Red with power sunroof! Auto., air, spoiler, really sharp! #4728-1 Was \$11,988 Blowout Price \$10,488 Not a Mistake! 	2000 BUICK REGAL GS, Top of the line, leather, sunroof, a beautiful car! #19153-1 Was \$14,988 Blowout Price \$13,488 Not a Mistake! 	2001 CHEVY BLAZER 4x4 4 DR. LT Model Very clean and nice. Full power! #19425-1 Was \$15,988 Blowout Price \$15,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 OLDSMOBILE SILHOUETTE GLS With leather, only 28,000 miles! Loaded with goodies! #4847 Was \$22,988 Blowout Price \$14,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 PONTIAC MONTANA Lots of extras and only 30,000 miles! These are \$25,000 brand new! #4968 Was \$14,988 Blowout Price \$12,988 Not a Mistake! 	2003 PONTIAC VIBE Auto, air, CD, power options, Satellite Silver, only 10,000 miles! A lot less than new! #4944 Was \$17,988 Blowout Price \$16,488 Not a Mistake! 	1997 CHEVY K1500 Full size pickup, 4x4, V8, nice truck. #19367-1 Was \$12,988 Blowout Price \$10,988 Not a Mistake! 	1996 CHEVROLET K1500 EXT. CAB 4x4 Sportside, V8, Very Nice! Lots of extras! #4970 Was \$14,988 Blowout Price \$12,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 CADILLAC ESCALADE Wow! What a sweetheart! 2 ton white with neutral leather. Top Shelf! #4945 Was \$33,988 Blowout Price \$31,988 Not a Mistake! 	1997 CHEVY K2500 3/4 TON 4x4 Ext. Cab, Nice truck and ready for winter! Only 53,000 miles! #19521-1 Was \$16,988 Blowout Price \$14,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 CHRYSLER SEBRING COUPE Leather, loaded with power moon roof, chrome wheels, V6, it has it all! Best of all only 7,000 miles! #17950 Was \$25,475 Blowout Price \$17,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 FORD RANGER SUPERCAB 4x4 V-6, XLT, Flareside! Clean and nice! #4967 Was \$14,988 Blowout Price \$12,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO Really nice new body style Jeep. Ready for Winter! #19355-1 Was \$19,555 Blowout Price \$17,988 Not a Mistake! 	1995 CHEVY C1500 2 Wheel drive, V6, slick. Decent Truck! Only 75,000 miles! #19543-1 Was \$6,988 Blowout Price \$5,988 Not a Mistake! 	1996 FORD RANGER REGULAR CAB 2 Wheel drive "splash" slick with air. Really sharp! #19358-2 Was \$4,988 Blowout Price \$3,488 Not a Mistake! 	2001 SATURN SL1 4 dr., auto with air. Only 8,000 miles! #19382-2 Was \$13,988 Blowout Price \$9,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 CHEVY SUBURBAN 4x4 New body style with leather! Rear air, loaded! Only 29,000 miles! #4896 Was \$31,988 Blowout Price \$28,988 Not a Mistake! 	1998 PONTIAC TRANS SPORT Ext. Wheel base, leather, very clean! #4923 Was \$12,988 Blowout Price \$11,988 Not a Mistake! 	1996 FORD RANGER REGULAR CAB 2 Wheel drive "splash" slick with air. Really sharp! #19358-2 Was \$4,988 Blowout Price \$3,488 Not a Mistake! 	1997 CHEVY BLAZER 4x4 4 dr., nicely equipped, only 70,000 miles! #19528-1 Was \$11,988 Blowout Price \$9,988 Not a Mistake! 	1995 PLYMOUTH NEON Great car for the price! #19279-1 Was \$3,988 Blowout Price \$2,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 CHEVY SILVERADO REG. CAB 2 Wheel Drive, Auto. with air! V-8 only 10,000 miles! #4899 Was \$17,988 Blowout Price \$14,988 Not a Mistake! 	1998 PONTIAC TRANS SPORT Ext. Wheel base, leather, very clean! #4923 Was \$12,988 Blowout Price \$11,988 Not a Mistake! 	1996 FORD RANGER REGULAR CAB 2 Wheel drive "splash" slick with air. Really sharp! #19358-2 Was \$4,988 Blowout Price \$3,488 Not a Mistake! 	1997 CHEVY BLAZER 4x4 4 dr., nicely equipped, only 70,000 miles! #19528-1 Was \$11,988 Blowout Price \$9,988 Not a Mistake! 	1995 CADILLAC CONCOURS Leather and loaded! Clean and standing tall! #19382-2 Was \$6,988 Blowout Price \$7,988 Not a Mistake! 	1999 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN 4x4 LT with leather! Loaded to the max! 35,000 miles! #4718 Was \$27,988 Blowout Price \$24,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 CHEVY SILVERADO EXT. CAB 4x4 With power! Nice truck! #19437-1 Was \$16,988 Blowout Price \$16,988 Not a Mistake! 	1996 FORD RANGER REGULAR CAB 2 Wheel drive "splash" slick with air. Really sharp! #19358-2 Was \$4,988 Blowout Price \$3,488 Not a Mistake! 	1997 CHEVY BLAZER 4x4 4 dr., nicely equipped, only 70,000 miles! #19528-1 Was \$11,988 Blowout Price \$9,988 Not a Mistake! 	1997 OLDSMOBILE CUTLASS SUPREME Very nice with only 56,000 miles! #19357-2 Was \$6,988 Blowout Price \$7,488 Not a Mistake! 	1999 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN 4x4 LT with leather! Loaded to the max! 35,000 miles! #4718 Was \$27,988 Blowout Price \$24,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 CHEVY SILVERADO EXT. CAB 4x4 With power! Nice truck! #19437-1 Was \$16,988 Blowout Price \$16,988 Not a Mistake! 	1996 FORD RANGER REGULAR CAB 2 Wheel drive "splash" slick with air. Really sharp! #19358-2 Was \$4,988 Blowout Price \$3,488 Not a Mistake! 	1997 CHEVY BLAZER 4x4 4 dr., nicely equipped, only 70,000 miles! #19528-1 Was \$11,988 Blowout Price \$9,988 Not a Mistake! 	1998 DODGE NEON Auto. with air, CD, power windows and local! Great fuel economy! #18690-1 Was \$6,988 Blowout Price \$5,988 Not a Mistake! 	1998 PONTIAC TRANS SPORT Ext. Wheel base, leather, very clean! #4923 Was \$12,988 Blowout Price \$11,988 Not a Mistake! 	2001 DODGE DURANGO 4x4 Fully equipped, low miles, 3 seats, running boards, all the extras! #4920 Was \$24,988 Blowout Price \$21,988 Not a Mistake! 	1996 FORD RANGER REGULAR CAB 2 Wheel drive "splash" slick with air. Really sharp! #19358-2 Was \$4,988 Blowout Price \$3,488 Not a Mistake! 	1997 CHEVY BLAZER 4x4 4 dr., nicely equipped, only 70,000 miles! #19528-1 Was \$11,988 Blowout Price \$9,988 Not a Mistake! 	1993 CADILLAC DEVILLE Very nice, clean, not worn out by any means! #19465-1 Was \$6,988 Blowout Price \$5,488 Not a Mistake! 	2000 CHEVY SILVERADO EXT. CAB 4x4 With power! Nice truck! #19437-1 Was \$16,988 Blowout Price \$16,988 Not a Mistake! 	1998 PONTIAC TRANS SPORT Ext. 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Really sharp! #19358-2 Was \$4,988 Blowout Price \$3,488 Not a Mistake! 	1997 CHEVY BLAZER 4x4 4 dr., nicely equipped, only 70,000 miles! #19528-1 Was \$11,988 Blowout Price \$9,988 Not a Mistake! 	1997 OLDS AURORA Nice car in good shape! Has a few miles, but priced right! #19123-2 Was \$6,988 Blowout Price \$7,488 Not a Mistake! 	1998 PLYMOUTH GRAND VOYAGER SE Fully equipped, only 55,000 miles. These are \$30,000 brand new! #19311-1 Was \$11,988 Blowout Price \$10,488 Not a Mistake! 	2000 FORD WINDSTAR SE package, fully equipped, very clean, low, low payments! #19107-1 Was \$13,988 Blowout Price \$12,488 Not a Mistake! 	1996 FORD RANGER REGULAR CAB 2 Wheel drive "splash" slick with air. 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Leather, power moonroof, clean and sharp! #19620-1 Was \$6,988 Blowout Price \$5,988 Not a Mistake! 	1998 PLYMOUTH GRAND VOYAGER SE Fully equipped, only 55,000 miles. These are \$30,000 brand new! #19311-1 Was \$11,988 Blowout Price \$10,488 Not a Mistake! 	2000 FORD WINDSTAR SE package, fully equipped, very clean, low, low payments! #19107-1 Was \$13,988 Blowout Price \$12,488 Not a Mistake! 	1996 FORD RANGER REGULAR CAB 2 Wheel drive "splash" slick with air. Really sharp! #19358-2 Was \$4,988 Blowout Price \$3,488 Not a Mistake! 	1997 CHEVY BLAZER 4x4 4 dr., nicely equipped, only 70,000 miles! #19528-1 Was \$11,988 Blowout Price \$9,988 Not a Mistake! 	1998 CADILLAC CATERA Really sharp and clean! Loaded with options! Drive a Cadillac for a Chevy price! #18758-2 Was \$11,988 Blowout Price \$9,988 Not a Mistake! 	1998 PLYMOUTH GRAND VOYAGER SE Fully equipped, only 55,000 miles. 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2001 CHEVY MONTE CARLO SS Wow! Flame Red with power moon roof and lots of goodies! This one won't be here long! #19243-1 Was \$19,988 Blowout Price \$17,988 Not a Mistake! 	1998 BUICK LESABRE Custom, popular "Sandrift" color, very nice and sharp! #19138-2 Was \$10,988 Blowout Price \$9,488 Not a Mistake! 	1998 FORD TAURUS GL, loaded with options, clean and nice! Has some miles, but the price shows it! #19457-1 Was \$6,988 Blowout Price \$4,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 CHEVY BLAZER LT 4 Dr., 4x4, Leather, Sunroof, Two-Tone paint, Beautiful Unit! #19317-1 Was \$16,488 Blowout Price \$16,988 Not a Mistake! 	1998 FORD EXPLORER 2 dr., 4x4, Sport Model! Loaded with leather! Very nice, very clean! #19067-1 Was \$13,988 Blowout Price \$12,488 Not a Mistake! 	2001 PONTIAC SUNFIRE 2 Dr., Red with power sunroof! 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Only 75,000 miles! #19543-1 Was \$6,988 Blowout Price \$5,988 Not a Mistake! 	1996 FORD RANGER REGULAR CAB 2 Wheel drive "splash" slick with air. Really sharp! #19358-2 Was \$4,988 Blowout Price \$3,488 Not a Mistake! 	2001 SATURN SL1 4 dr., auto with air. Only 8,000 miles! #19382-2 Was \$13,988 Blowout Price \$9,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 CHEVY SUBURBAN 4x4 New body style with leather! Rear air, loaded! Only 29,000 miles! #4896 Was \$31,988 Blowout Price \$28,988 Not a Mistake! 	1998 PONTIAC TRANS SPORT Ext. Wheel base, leather, very clean! #4923 Was \$12,988 Blowout Price \$11,988 Not a Mistake! 	1996 FORD RANGER REGULAR CAB 2 Wheel drive "splash" slick with air. Really sharp! #19358-2 Was \$4,988 Blowout Price \$3,488 Not a Mistake! 	1997 CHEVY BLAZER 4x4 4 dr., nicely equipped, only 70,000 miles! #19528-1 Was \$11,988 Blowout Price \$9,988 Not a Mistake! 	1995 PLYMOUTH NEON Great car for the price! #19279-1 Was \$3,988 Blowout Price \$2,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 CHEVY SILVERADO REG. 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2001 PONTIAC SUNFIRE 2 Dr., Red with power sunroof! Auto., air, spoiler, really sharp! #4728-1 Was \$11,988 Blowout Price \$10,488 Not a Mistake! 	2000 BUICK REGAL GS, Top of the line, leather, sunroof, a beautiful car! #19153-1 Was \$14,988 Blowout Price \$13,488 Not a Mistake! 	2001 CHEVY BLAZER 4x4 4 DR. LT Model Very clean and nice. Full power! #19425-1 Was \$15,988 Blowout Price \$15,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 OLDSMOBILE SILHOUETTE GLS With leather, only 28,000 miles! Loaded with goodies! #4847 Was \$22,988 Blowout Price \$14,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 PONTIAC MONTANA Lots of extras and only 30,000 miles! These are \$25,000 brand new! #4968 Was \$14,988 Blowout Price \$12,988 Not a Mistake! 	2003 PONTIAC VIBE Auto, air, CD, power options, Satellite Silver, only 10,000 miles! A lot less than new! #4944 Was \$17,988 Blowout Price \$16,488 Not a Mistake! 	1997 CHEVY K1500 Full size pickup, 4x4, V8, nice truck. #19367-1 Was \$12,988 Blowout Price \$10,988 Not a Mistake! 	1996 CHEVROLET K1500 EXT. CAB 4x4 Sportside, V8, Very Nice! Lots of extras! #4970 Was \$14,988 Blowout Price \$12,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 CADILLAC ESCALADE Wow! What a sweetheart! 2 ton white with neutral leather. Top Shelf! #4945 Was \$33,988 Blowout Price \$31,988 Not a Mistake! 	1997 CHEVY K2500 3/4 TON 4x4 Ext. Cab, Nice truck and ready for winter! Only 53,000 miles! #19521-1 Was \$16,988 Blowout Price \$14,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 CHRYSLER SEBRING COUPE Leather, loaded with power moon roof, chrome wheels, V6, it has it all! Best of all only 7,000 miles! #17950 Was \$25,475 Blowout Price \$17,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 FORD RANGER SUPERCAB 4x4 V-6, XLT, Flareside! 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Only 29,000 miles! #4896 Was \$31,988 Blowout Price \$28,988 Not a Mistake! 	1998 PONTIAC TRANS SPORT Ext. Wheel base, leather, very clean! #4923 Was \$12,988 Blowout Price \$11,988 Not a Mistake! 	1996 FORD RANGER REGULAR CAB 2 Wheel drive "splash" slick with air. Really sharp! #19358-2 Was \$4,988 Blowout Price \$3,488 Not a Mistake! 	1997 CHEVY BLAZER 4x4 4 dr., nicely equipped, only 70,000 miles! #19528-1 Was \$11,988 Blowout Price \$9,988 Not a Mistake! 	1995 PLYMOUTH NEON Great car for the price! #19279-1 Was \$3,988 Blowout Price \$2,988 Not a Mistake! 	2000 CHEVY SILVERADO REG. CAB 2 Wheel Drive, Auto. with air! V-8 only 10,000 miles! #4899 Was \$17,988 Blowout Price \$14,988 Not a Mistake! 	1998 PONTIAC TRANS SPORT Ext. Wheel base, leather, very clean! #4923 Was \$12,988 Blowout Price \$11,988 Not a Mistake! 	1996 FORD RANGER REGULAR CAB 2 Wheel drive "splash" slick with air. 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March 29 & 30, 2003
Houghton Lake High School

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 6 total 5'x10' booths
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9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

At Kirtland Community College

For more information, call 989-705-3600

Varsity squad falls to Tawas, Oscoda

Continued from Page 1B

on an in-bounds pass from Tobin. Helsel, Kaiser, Lange, and Chad Helsel also had points for GHS in the quarter.

The game was tied at 48-48 going into the fourth quarter.

Tawas scored first in the fourth period on two free throws. A drive by Kaiser and two free throws by Lange put GHS up by two.

A shot inside by Tawas tied the game at 52-52. Drives by Tobin and Kaiser gave Grayling a 56-52 advantage. A triple by Tawas cut it to one. A jump shot by T. Helsel gave Grayling a three-point lead.

The next three scores were made at the free throw line. A drive by Tobin put the Vikings up 62-58 with 3:10 left in regulation.

Tawas hit one of two free throw shots, then stole the ball and drove in for two.

A shot inside by Czapek on a pass from Kaiser put the Vikings up 64-61 with 2:05 remaining. Grayling got the ball back and scored on a shot inside by Lange.

Tawas answered with a triple to pull within two, 66-64, with 1:24 left in the game.

Tawas stole the ball, shot, missed, and Kaiser came down with the rebound. Up by two, the Vikings ran time off the clock and called a time-out at the 0:32 mark.

On the in-bounds play after the time-out, the Vikings were called for an over-and-back violation.

Tawas had possession with 30 seconds left.

The Braves connected on a three-pointer with 15 seconds on the clock. The Vikings turned the ball over and had to foul to stop the clock. The Braves missed the first shot and made the second, putting Tawas up by two with seven seconds remaining.

Grayling got the ball in and across half-court and called time-out with four seconds left in the contest.

The Vikings got the ball in, shot, and missed. The ball went out of bounds, last touched by Tawas, just before the clock expired. The horn sounded, but the officials had 1.2 seconds put back on the clock. The Vikings had one more chance.

Grayling tried to get the ball in to Kaiser, but Tawas picked off the pass, ending the game.

Tawas won by a final score of 68-66.

"We had our opportunities down the stretch offensively," Coach Rich Moffit said. "Defensively, we had some major mental mistakes during key moments. We relaxed during some key defensive situations and Tawas took advantage."

"On the positive side, I liked the toughness that we showed in the second half, coming back from a five-point deficit," Coach Moffit said.

Lange posted a double-double in the match with 16 points and 13 rebounds, both team highs. Czapek scored 14 points, Kaiser

scored 12, and T. Helsel had 11. Kaiser had 5 assists and 3 steals.

On Friday, the Vikings lost a league match at Oscoda 68-61.

The Owls led 37-29 at the half. Grayling fought back with an 18-12 third quarter, but Oscoda won the fourth period 19-14 to hand the Vikings their second conference loss of the week.

"We struggled fundamentally at the defensive end of the court," Coach Moffit said. "We had individuals who played hard, but as a team we did not get the job done at the defensive end of the court."

"We are 6-0 when we hold our opponents under 60 points," Moffit said, "but on Friday we allowed the following on defense: 18 uncovered cuts and post-ups in the paint area, 27 dribble penetrations, and 25 missed box-outs. When this team values defense, we will experience winning again."

Tobin scored 17 and had 3 assists in the match. Czapek had 14 points. Lange finished with 11 points and 9 rebounds. Andy Strohpaal had 4 steals.

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VARSITY BASKETBALL STANDINGS

team	league record	overall record
BC John Glenn	5-2	7-4
GRAYLING	5-2	6-4
Tawas	3-2	7-3
Standish Sterling	3-3	5-6
Oscoda	3-4	6-4
Ogemaw Heights	2-4	3-7
Pinconning	1-5	2-10

NEMC standings compiled by The Bay City Times

The Vikings play at Standish Sterling Central on Friday, January 31. On Tuesday, February 4 all three GHS boys basketball teams will host Roscommon. The freshman game starts at 4:30 p.m. and the JV and varsity contests will follow.

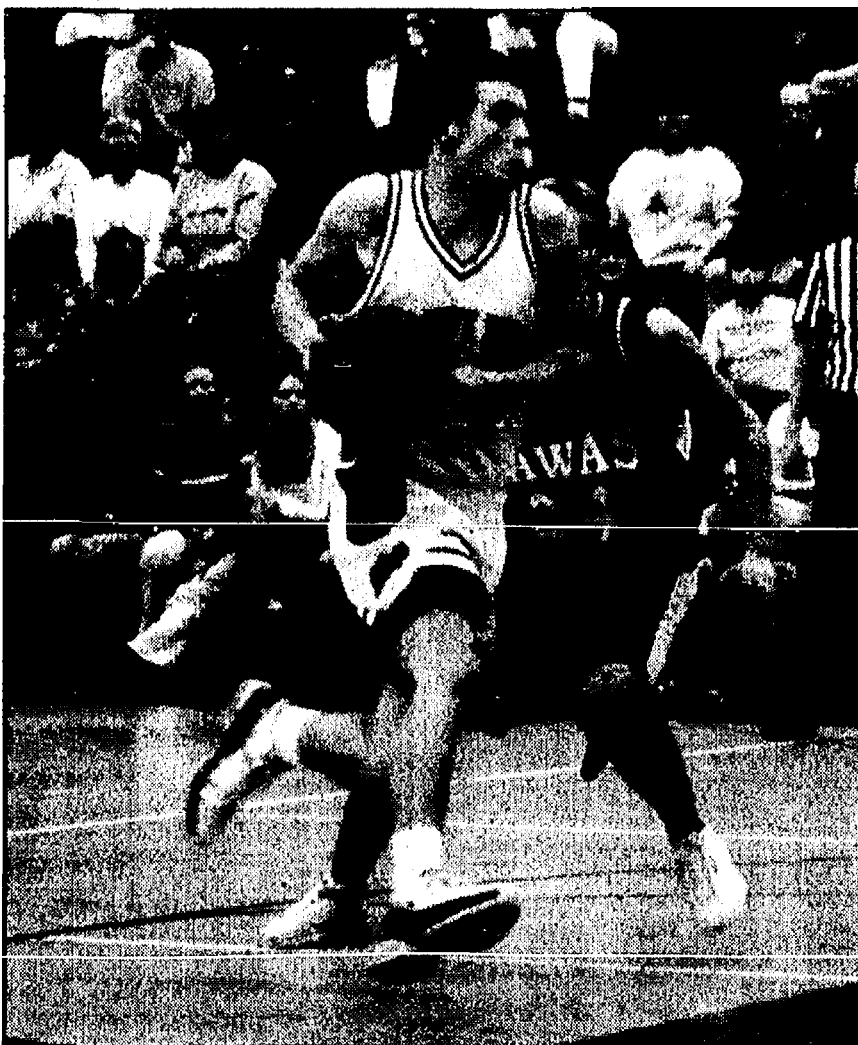


Photo by Caleb Casey

Andy Strohpaal drives for Grayling in last Tuesday's two-point loss to the Tawas Braves at GHS.

8th grade team wins two, loses one

In three recent close games, Grayling Middle School's 8th grade boys basketball (white) team won two and lost one. The team is 6-2 so far this season.

Last Wednesday, the Vikings won at Gaylord 28-25.

The game was tied at 3-3 after one quarter, Gaylord led 13-10 at the half, and the Blue Devils had an 18-15 advantage going into the fourth period. The Vikings came back to win. Terry Fraley, Nick Parkinson, and Moses Peters combined for 13 points in the fourth quarter to lead Grayling.

"The team played good defense and ran the offense better," said Coach Jim Burtch. "We missed many easy shots that we should have made. The team is improving with each game. I am pleased with its progress."

Peters finished the game with 10 points. Nick Parkinson had 9, and Fraley scored 7.

On Monday, the Vikings defeated Kalkaska in overtime 26-25 at GMS.

"The team never quit," Coach Burtch said. "We were down 10-0 at the end of the first quarter -- they played great defense after that and the offense came to life and outscored Kalkaska 26-15 the rest of the way. I am proud of the way the team played."

Kalkaska tied the game with about five seconds left in regulation. Both teams scored in overtime, and with about 20 seconds left, Carlos Ledesma converted on a foul shot to give GMS a 26-25 lead.

Peters, Pat Belcher, Fraley, Jeremiah Bootz, Parkinson, Ledesma, and Tim Hatley all scored for GMS in the contest.

On January 15, the Vikings lost an overtime game at Houghton Lake 25-23.

"We played well for three quarters and didn't protect the ball in the fourth and were outscored 9-0, and 4-2 in the overtime," Coach Burtch said. "I am proud of the team and we are continuing to improve."

Parkinson, Peters, Belcher, Ledesma, and Dennis Nelson all scored for the Vikings in the match.

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 Starring - Christian Kane & Ashton Kutcher
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 •Also Sat & Sun 2:15 & 4:15

Darkness Falls -PG-13- (95)
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Rings And Things

By Tresa Erickson

You finally know how and where you are going to propose. Now all you need is an engagement ring. Not just any old ring will do, however. You want the perfect ring. But where do you start and what do you need to know as you shop for the perfect ring?

Before you go to any jewelry store, you need to educate yourself on the 4Cs: Color, Clarity, Cut and Carat. All help determine the value of a diamond.

Generally diamonds have brown or yellow undertones, as well as interior and exterior flaws, such as scratches, nicks and inclusions. The less color and the more clarity a diamond has, the higher its value. A diamond that is cut proportionately and symmetrically will reflect more light, increasing both its sparkle and its value. The more carats a diamond weighs, the more rare it is and the more it is

worth. To learn more about the 4Cs, go to the Gemological Institute of America's Web site at 4cs.gia.edu.

Once you know a bit more about the 4Cs, check with the Better Business Bureau or local chamber of commerce for a list of reputable jewelers. You are probably going to spend a good deal of money, so you want make sure you get the real thing. You should also find out about the stores' return and repair policies.

As you shop for a ring, take your time and stick to your budget. You don't want to empty your bank account for the first huge diamond you see. Smaller diamonds are often of better quality than larger ones. Again, knowing the 4Cs will help you to choose the best ring for your money.

When choosing a ring, think about your fiancée's tastes in jewelry. Does she wear a lot of gold or platinum jewelry? Does she like

gemstones? Does she lean toward more simple or elaborate pieces? More importantly, what kind of lifestyle does she lead? If she is athletic or works in the outdoors, she might want a simple ring. On the other hand, if she prefers the indoors and works in an office, she might want something fancier.

To narrow down your selections, consider the 4Cs of the diamond as well as the setting. Platinum prongs are stronger than gold ones. The band of the ring should also be strong. You don't want it to get bent out of shape the first day your fiancée wears it.

Once you've decided on two or three ring styles, visit several jewelers and compare prices. Then take your fiancée's tastes into consideration and choose the one that will best fit your budget and her personality.

Before you know it, you'll have a ring in your pocket and you'll be all set to propose.

Capturing The Moment

By Andrew McGlothlen

Getting married is one of the most cherished memories in a person's life. However, as psychologists have discovered, memory can be unreliable—especially in an emotional setting such as a wedding. How do you ensure that your wedding is captured perfectly for you to remember?

For starters, you can hire professionals, friends or family members to film your wedding, including behind-the-scenes footage. Although you may have to pay less for their services, amateurs usually do not have the proper equipment, and therefore, may need to be closer to the action. Depending on their equipment, you may have to pay more for the services of professionals. Most, however, have more experience with angles, zoom and sound

capabilities that make them worth the extra money.

In addition to filming, you probably have several photos in mind that you would like to be taken at your wedding. During the ceremony, the best shots include the bride coming down the aisle, the exchange of rings, the kiss and the newly married couple exiting the scene for the reception. At the reception the key shots are the couple cutting the cake, the exchange of cake, the best man's toast and the newlyweds dancing with their parents. Either before or after the reception, you may also want a series of photos with your parents, the wedding party and other close relatives, including grandparents, siblings and possibly even children.

For more random shots at the reception, consider putting disposable cameras at the guests' disposal. This will allow you to see more of the reception than you could at the time. Because you never know what you'll find, photos developed from the disposable cameras can

be a nice surprise to come back to after a honeymoon. If there are any shots left on the cameras, you can use them to take pictures of your new abode for another photo album.

Between the professional photographers and the dozens of amateurs helping to record your big day, it's hard to believe that a special moment could be forgotten, but many leading up to the big day are. Events, like the rehearsal, the bridal shower and the bachelor party, are photographed little. All, however, make great preludes to the wedding section of a photo album.

From the photos to the video, what couple could forget the magic and excitement of their wedding day? At your one-year anniversary party when the top tier of cake is brought out to be eaten, perhaps the guests will be able to dine on a cake topped with a picture that they took themselves. If nothing else, you will never forget your wedding day—in spite of what psychologists say.



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Flowering Your Big Day

By Tresa Erickson

As you plan the floral arrangements for your wedding, you will be faced with many questions. What kind of bouquet will you carry? How many centerpieces will you need for the reception? What kind of boutonniere will your groom wear? These are just some of the issues you will have to discuss with your florist.

After you have selected the colors of your wedding, you can start thinking about the flowers. To get ideas, go to the library and check out some books on floral arranging, or look through some bridal magazines. Make photocopies or clip out pictures of arrangements you like. Collect them together with swatches of your wedding colors to give to the florist later.

In the floral world, flowers carry meaning. Tulips, for instance, symbolize love; daisies, innocence; and honeysuckle, generosity.

Ivy represents eternal fidelity, while ferns represent sincerity. Keep this in mind as you choose the flowers and greenery for the floral arrangements at your wedding. For a more complete list of meanings, conduct a search online.

Once you have a few ideas, consider whether you will use real or silk flowers. There are pros and cons to each. Real flowers smell wonderful, but they are less hardy and more expensive than silk flowers. To reduce costs, consider using flowers in season. Although they do not have a scent, silk flowers cost less and they can be displayed easier after your wedding.

No matter if you use real or silk flowers, the number and size of your floral arrangements, especially your bouquet, should fit your budget and your needs. Generally, the larger an arrangement, the more it costs. If you

have a small budget and need several pieces, you may have to choose smaller arrangements. As for your bridal bouquet, make sure you select a size that fits your stature. You don't want to be burdened with a huge bouquet that covers half of your dress.

Once you have an idea of the type, size and number of arrangements you will need, it's time to select a florist. Depending on your needs, it could be a crafty friend or a flower shop down the street. The person you choose should be creative. They should also be reliable and flexible in case you need to make changes to your arrangements later. No matter whom you choose, make sure you are comfortable with their services. Then give them your ideas and color swatches, and watch them create some beautiful floral arrangements for your wedding.

Wedding Weather Disasters

(ARA) - We've all heard the horror stories. Everyone knows someone who planned the perfect wedding for months only to have it derailed by events beyond anyone's control. Mother Nature may not cooperate on the wedding day, causing havoc and financial headaches.

"This time of year ice storms are causing power outages and highway closures along the east coast and center states. You never know what can happen," says Robert Nuccio, exclusive program administrator for the Fireman's Fund wedding insurance program. According to Nuccio, there is something you can do to protect yourself and your investment -- it's called wedding insurance. But if you don't live in an earthquake zone and you aren't getting married during blizzard season, do you really need it?

Here are just some of the situations encountered by Nuccio.

The day before the wedding a pregnant tabby cat settled onto the

wedding gown and gave birth to a litter of kittens. The company found a seamstress to make a new dress overnight, and the \$1,000 cost was covered.

Another situation involved a bride's younger brother. On the morning of the wedding, the three-year-old decided the all-white wedding dress seemed too plain. He got out his finger paints and created a masterpiece -- on the dress. The wedding had to be cancelled and rescheduled and the cost was covered.

On another occasion, neither the bride and groom nor any of the guests were able to get to a wedding in Dallas. The secret service had closed most of the downtown area because the president was in town. The event had to be rescheduled, and costs for a completely new wedding were covered.

Nuccio has the following advice for couples planning weddings and considering wedding insurance: More and more event facilities,

(Continued on Page 7)

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Getting The Most Out Of The Wedding

By Andrew McGlothlen

After returning from your honeymoon, you begin to open your wedding gifts with your new husband. "How did we get such an unusual assortment?" you wonder. "I thought they would know what we needed." If it's not unusual gifts, it's repeat gifts. Seriously, who needs four microwaves? Where did you go wrong? You didn't utilize your resources—gift registries.

Gift registries are offered at more stores every year. Where should couples register? In the opinion of those who have come before, couples should register at several different stores. The gifts they put on their list should vary from low-priced items like a nice towel set for the guest bathroom to some rather high-priced items. It doesn't hurt to put high-priced items on registries, but a couple shouldn't expect guests to be able to afford them. It's quite possible, though, that several guests will "go in together" on a larger gift. The

variety of stores and prices should accommodate all guests but still allow a couple to begin to fill their new living space.

What should couples register in their registry? On the practical end, it's appropriate for couples to register for appliances from toasters to microwaves to refrigerators. Electronics of all types from DVD players to surround sound stereo systems may also make it onto the list. China, crystal and fine flatware tend to be more classic requests, though still found quite often on registry lists. Pots, pans, strainers and the like are also fairly common requests from a couple trying to fill a kitchen.

One of the best parts of modern gift registries is the ease of actually registering. Many places allow couples to come into the store, fill out as little information as the wedding name and the date, and then take a scan gun and point and shoot at anything they'd like. While couples should have fun with this, they should not shoot

just anything because when that complete set of seasons of The Simpsons on DVD shows up, the amusement may be lost on the couple that was just having fun. However, this approach does make it much easier in that a couple can point and shoot at their own pace, and they are usually allowed to return and add more to their list as they think of it. Smaller stores may use the handwritten approach, but it's still a small price to pay to ensure that only one microwave shows up in the gift pile.

With all this in mind, couples should really just enjoy the experience. It's not every day that they are able to request everything their hearts desire and actually receive some of it. However, not every guest will be comfortable purchasing from a gift registry, and couples should be prepared for that with a card tray. When used properly, though, registries will help many guests save a lot of shopping time and allow a couple to fill their new abode almost effortlessly.

The Makings For A Wonderful Sendoff

By Tresa Erickson

The tradition of throwing rice at a newly married couple has been around since ancient times. Many ancient civilizations believed that by throwing rice the fertility of the seeds would be passed on to the couple. They also believed that rice could ward off evil spirits. The tradition continued well into the 20th century until a rumor began circulating that rice was harmful to birds.

According to several sources, the rumor was started, or at least propelled, by an Ann Landers column in the '60s. Landers advised

rose petals be thrown at weddings instead of rice because it was bad for the birds. The rumor soon evolved, and many believed that once eaten, rice would expand in birds' stomachs to the point that they would explode. It became customary to throw birdseed rather than rice.

There have been no proven cases of birds dying from the consumption of rice. According to several experts, rice, whether milled or wild, does not harm birds. Many migrating birds, in fact, eat from the rice fields in the South to gain strength for their return to the North.

So throwing rice at weddings does not pose a threat to the birds...but it can harm guests. When tossed onto a sidewalk or on steps, it puts anyone walking on that surface at risk of falling. In addition, rice can be difficult to sweep up. Many organizations and churches prohibit the throwing of it because it is so messy.

If you can't throw rice, what can you throw? You could try confetti. But that too is messy and may not be allowed. You could also throw birdseed. But again depending where it is thrown it could pose a danger to your guests.

A current trend that seems to satisfy everyone is bubbles. Not only are they less messy, but they offer

a unique photo opportunity. If you go this route, make sure you purchase a bubble solution made specifically for weddings. Most come in white half-ounce bottles with wands attached to the caps, and they are free of dyes found in normal solutions that stain fabrics like silk.

If bubbles don't appeal to you, you could try balloons. What better way to end your ceremony than to have each of your guests release a colorful balloon? The sky will be filled with color as you and your groom exit the building as husband and wife.

If you are an animal lover, you may want doves to be released, or if the temperatures are warm, butterflies. Doves have long been a symbol of peace and love. What couple doesn't hope for that? Butterflies also make for a lovely sendoff. Imagine hundreds of them fluttering from your guests' hands as you leave for your honeymoon.

Maybe you want bubbles. Maybe you want butterflies. Maybe you still want rice. Before you decide, contact the site where you are holding the wedding and find out if there are any restrictions. More importantly, take the well-being of your guests into consideration and arrange for whatever you've decided to be carried out safely.

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Wedding Cakes With Style

By Tresa Erickson

When you think of a wedding cake, what comes to mind? Three tiers of vanilla cake sandwiched between plastic columns? Lots of thick, white frosting and pale pink or yellow rosettes? A plastic bride and groom sitting on top? For many of us, this is the description of a traditional wedding cake, but it doesn't have to be. Today more and more couples are choosing a wedding cake with a bit more style.

Wedding cakes today not only look good, but taste good. They also come in a variety of shapes, sizes and flavors. From raspberry vanilla cheesecake to chocolate mint sponge cake, you can have just about any kind of wedding cake you want. Some of the current trends include:

- **Multi-flavored cakes.** If you have several favorite flavors and you are having a hard time selecting just one for your cake, this option is ideal. Try choosing a different flavor for each layer of your cake. Or ask the baker to insert a cream filling in one of the layers and preserves in the other. You can even choose a different flavor of icing, like white chocolate or strawberry cream.

- **Unusually shaped cakes.** Oval, square, rectangular, hexagonal—you name it, and you can

have it. You can also mix and match shapes and sizes to create an unusual cake. For a modern cake, select oval layers for the bottom and middle, and a heart layer for the top. Follow a current trend and choose a large square for the bottom, a slightly smaller square for the middle and an even smaller square for the top. Then ask the baker to stack them on top of each other, and voila...a stack of presents. After they are iced, the presents can be tied together with a bow of sugared fruit.

- **Colored cakes.** The icing on your cake does not have to be white, nor do the rosettes have to be pastel. You can have chocolate icing with red rosettes, or vanilla icing with a touch of lemon and tiny purple rosebuds. You can even match the colors of the icing on your cake to the colors of your flowers, bridesmaids' dresses or decorations at the reception. Just make sure you take a color swatch to your baker.

- **Designer cakes.** Wedding cakes don't have to be plain. Add a unique touch to your cake with fresh fruit or flowers. For a stunning look, ask the baker to put a single rose on top or a cascade of lilies down the side. If you prefer something a bit sweeter, toss on some frosted nuts or chocolate candies. Try something different

and bring in a photo of your gown and have the baker copy the pattern onto your cake.

- **Personalized cakes.** Feeling sentimental? Find a photo of your parents' or grandparents' wedding cake and have the baker copy it. Then serve the first slices to your parents or grandparents at the reception. If you have extra layer cakes, find good photos of you and your fiancé, and have them transferred to the cakes. Choose an unusual topper, like two plastic gold wedding rings, or have your and your groom's initials intertwined in icing.

The styles and choices of wedding cakes today are endless. You can have just about any flavor and size of cake you want, and you can customize it to meet your needs and wants. If you are having an intergalactic wedding, you can order a cake that looks like a spaceship. If you are having a Christmas wedding with a French flair, you can order a traditional French holiday cake *bûche de noël*.

If you would like to follow the Bermuda wedding cake tradition, you can order a tiny tree for your cake topper and then plant it in your yard to signify the growth of your marriage. With just a little creativity, you can have the wedding cake of your dreams.



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Wedding Weather Disasters

(Continued from Page 3)

including hotels, restaurants, historic homes and country clubs, are requiring proof of liability insurance from the hosts of an event. Those reserving space for weddings or any large celebration should read the contract in advance.

The facility staff may neglect to mention that a certificate of insurance is required until a week or two before a function. Nuccio recommends taking care of this in advance; but if time is short, wedding insurance can be purchased over the phone.

Financial security is another major reason to consider wedding insurance.

The average cost for a wedding these days is considerable, usually around \$20,000. From the non-refundable deposits for the facility, to commitments to caterers, florists and photographers, not to mention wedding attire, there are thousands of dollars at stake. If a wedding is cancelled at the last minute, many of the bills will still have to be paid. "Think of it this way," explains Nuccio, "could you afford to put on the wedding a second time?"

There could be a weather or emergency situation that could cause a cancellation. "It wouldn't necessarily have to be a tornado or snow storm, says Nuccio. "It could be an accident on the highway that prevents people from

getting to the ceremony; or an airport closure in another part of the country that prevents the groom from arriving on time."

A wedding insurance policy starts at \$195, and depending on the options selected by the purchaser, it will cover cancellation and postponement, additional expenses (such as if the caterer doesn't show up and you have to pay double to another one at the last minute), special attire in case anything happens to the dress or tuxedos, photography in case something happens to the pictures, and rental property in case of damage during a wedding

party.

Almost the only contingency not covered is a change of heart. Nuccio calls it "the cold-feet exclusion."

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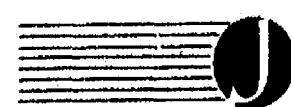
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